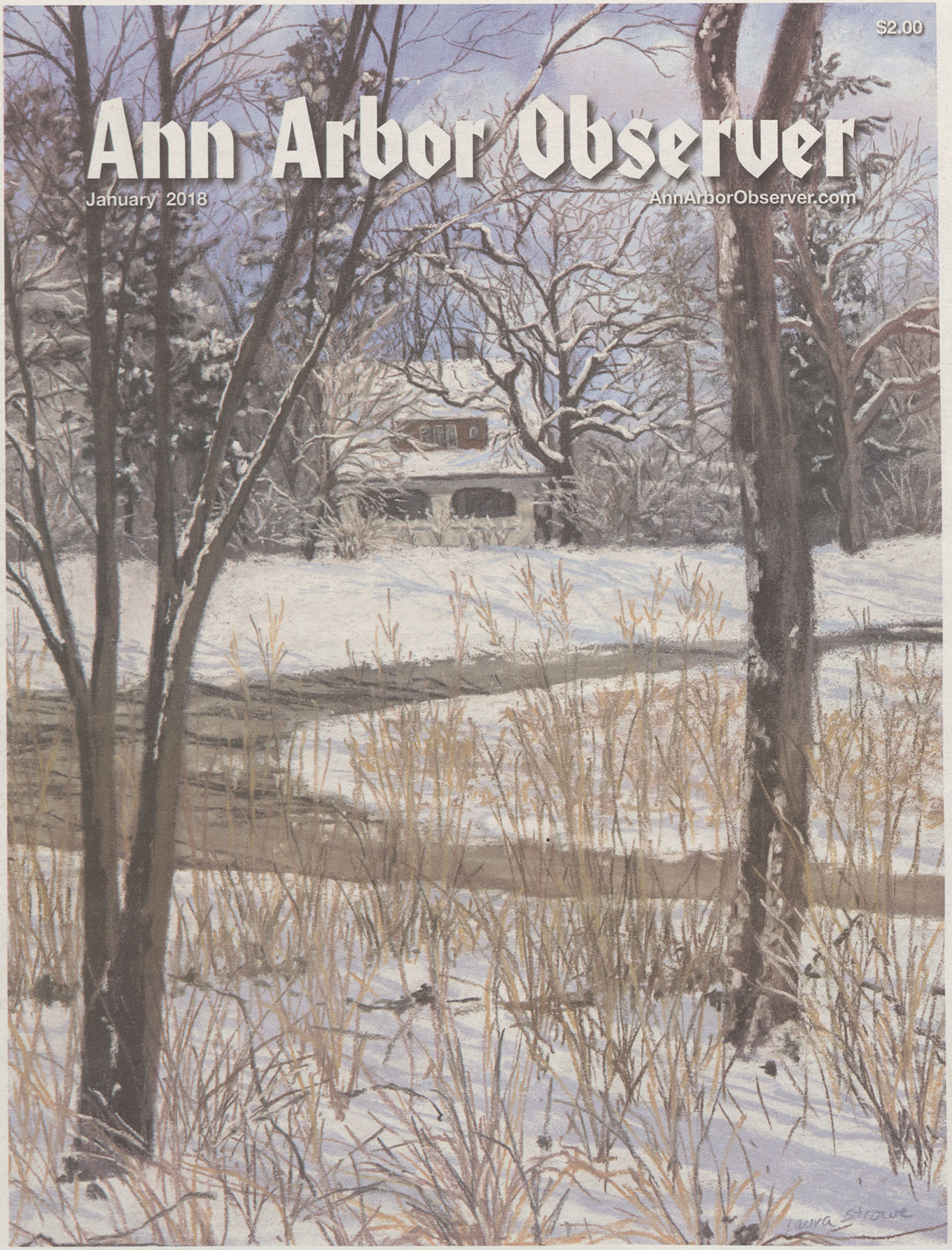
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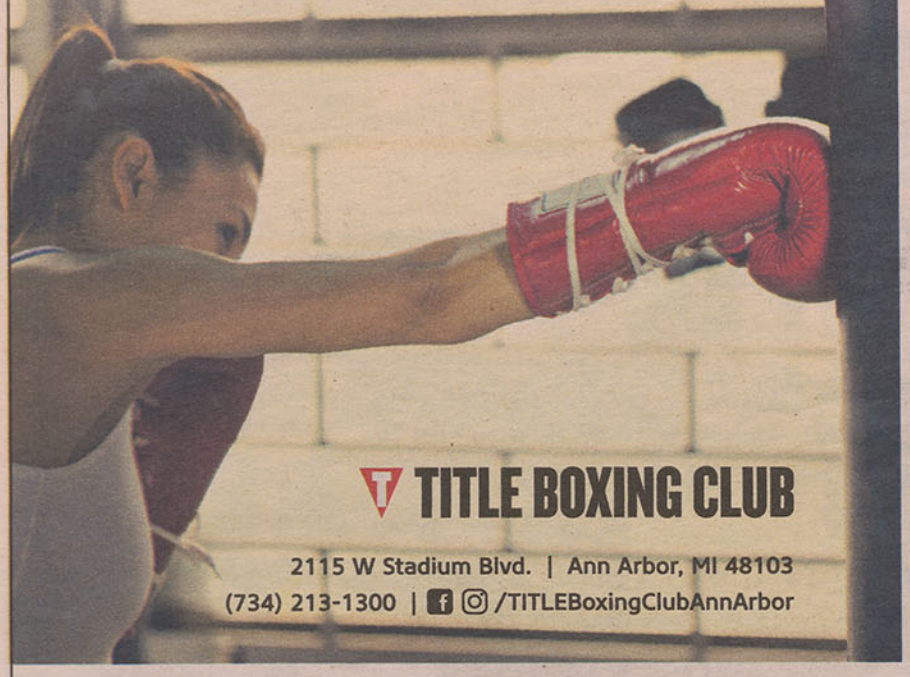
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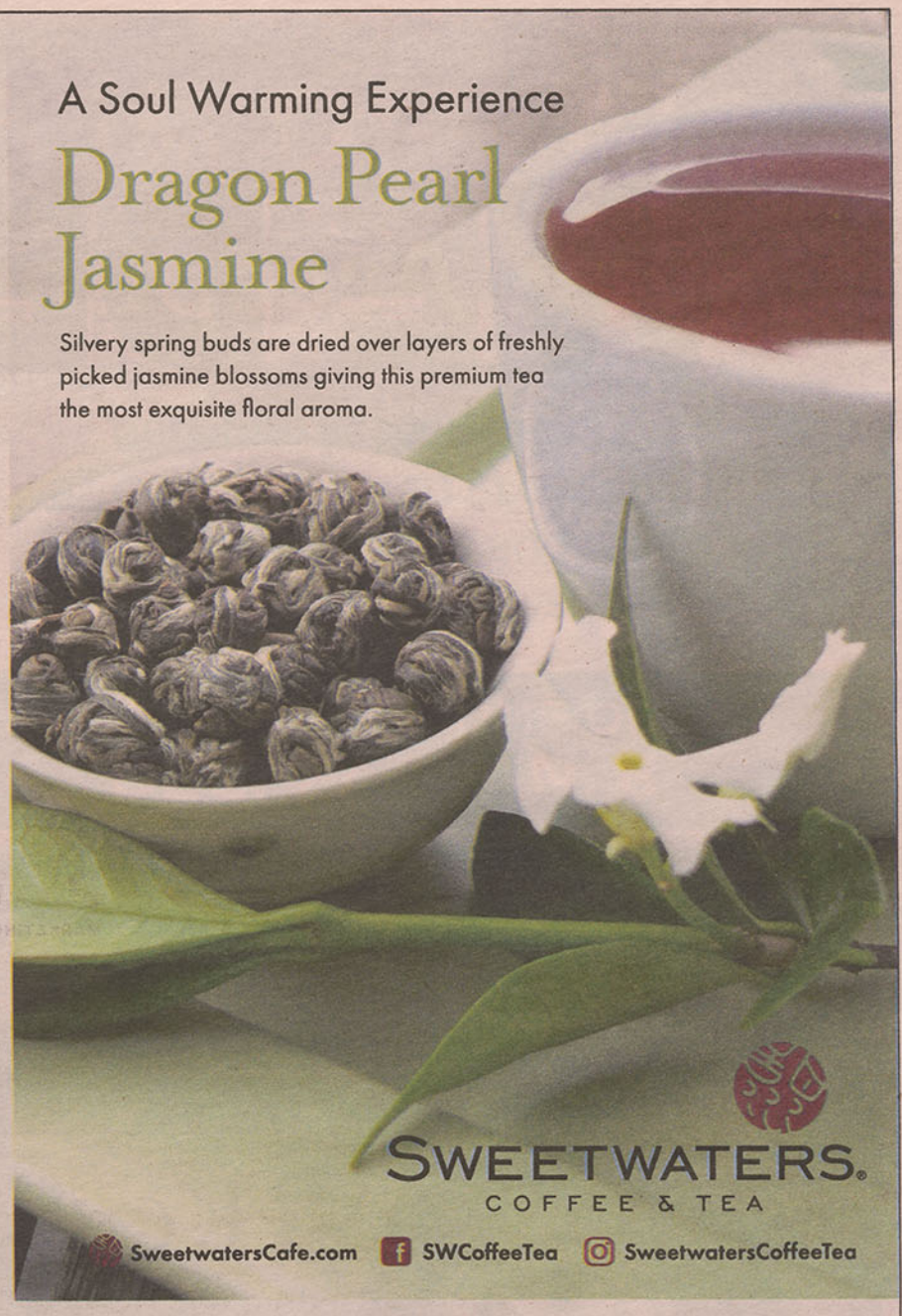
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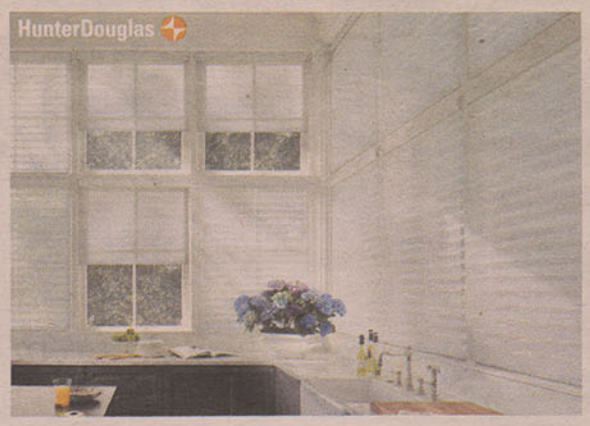
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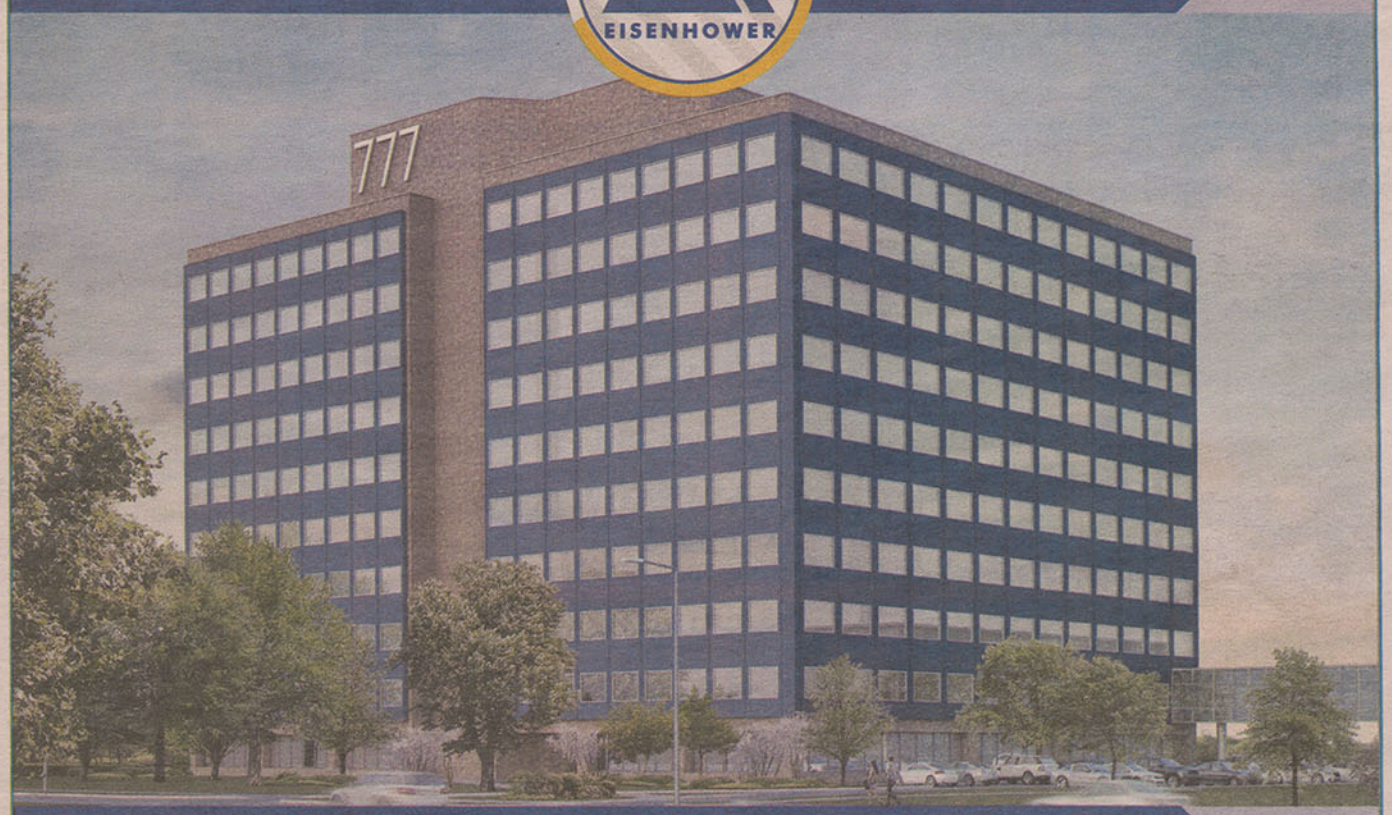
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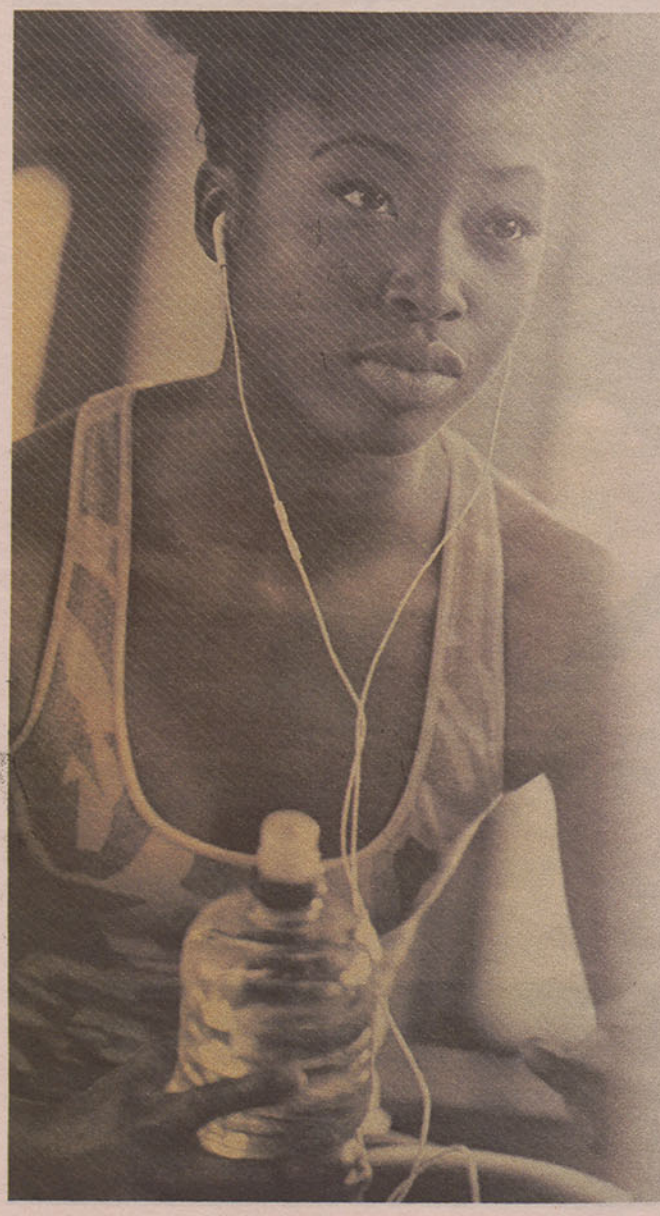
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MEDICAL FITNESS

The biggest cull: Sixteen city parks and six U-M properties will close daily from 3 p.m. to midnight January 8–January 31, and the Nichols Arboretum will close for the same hours on January 9, 16, 19, and 23. While they're off-limits to humans, hired sharpshooters will kill up to 250 deer. For a map and schedule, see goo.gl/9FgSnA.

That's more deer than the city targeted in its two previous culls combined. Why? "There are more than we initially anticipated," says mayor Christopher Taylor—CFO Tom Crawford says staff estimate there are 450 in deer-friendly wards 1 and 2, based on aerial surveys and ground cameras. "Staff recommends the increased cull to adjust the curve on deer population to put us in maintenance mode rather than reduction mode," says Taylor.

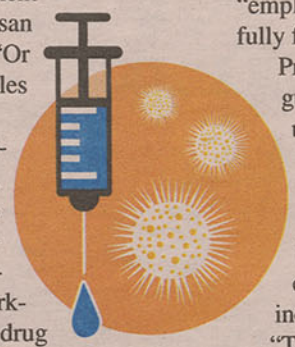


Even so, the mayor has voted against the cull three years running. "I still think that shooting and killing in the park is contrary to the ethos of the town," he says. But this year, Taylor was alone in opposition—even Chip Smith, who opposed the first two culls, voted for it this time. "My vote didn't matter," he explains in an email. "The votes were there to proceed."

The first cull triggered multiple protests and lawsuits plus three anti-cull council candidates. The lawsuits failed, and none of the candidates got elected. Last year the one anti-cull candidate didn't get elected. According to a survey the city commissioned from MSU last summer, what Taylor once described as "the most divisive issue in my time in serving the public" now has a 73 percent approval rating.

If this year's goal is met, the local herd will be greatly reduced. Crawford emails that staff "won't know what maintenance level looks like until after we complete our analysis of this year's program"—but future culls will almost certainly be smaller.

Vaccine push: "It's definitely 'all hands on deck,'" says Washtenaw County Public Health Department spokeswoman Susan Ringler-Cerniglia. "Or should I say 'all needles on deck?'"



Alarmed by an outbreak of Hepatitis A, health officials are promoting vaccination for high-risk residents: restaurant workers, gay men, drug users, individuals in homeless shelters and jails, and first responders.

Hep A cases in southeast Michigan counties have increased dramatically over the past sixteen months: in 2017, at least 600 cases were diagnosed, with twenty fatalities. Washtenaw County's numbers are comparatively low, with just nine cases as of early December. But with seven cases since September, the health department was offering walk-in vaccination days in December. Some restaurant owners are paying for their staffs to get the shots, and the Delonis Center homeless shelter provides them free. That's multiplied the number of people getting vaccinated from about ninety a week in September to about 400 weekly in December.

Environmental reprieve: Under questioning from Rep. Debbie Dingell in December, EPA administrator Scott Pruitt committed to keeping the EPA emissions laboratory on Plymouth Rd. open—a welcome reversal after the Trump administration proposed crippling staff cuts ("EPA in the Crosshairs," May 2017).



Pruitt hasn't lifted his ban on employees talking to the media, but as president of American Federation of Government Employees Local 3907, Mark Coryell is exempt. "I am cautiously encouraged," Coryell emails. But, he adds, "Pruitt and other Trump appointees to EPA have been clear about their goal to 'deconstruct'" the agency—and with another budget vote coming up by year-end, "employees don't yet know if they will be fully funded after the New Year."

Pruitt wouldn't make even a verbal guarantee about the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. "I don't think anyone is surprised by Pruitt's lack of commitment," emails Brad Cardinale, director of a U-M lab funded largely by GLRI. "He seems far more interested in promoting growth of certain industries and protecting polluters.

"The good news is that Congress decides whether or not to fund," Cardinale adds—and there's bipartisan support for the GLRI among representatives from Great Lakes states.

"Daily to the D": That's what the maize letters on the blue-painted bus promise. In October, the Detroit Connector expanded its number of trips, added a stop at the U-M Dearborn, and, for the first time, allowed those who don't study or work at the U-M to ride.



Launched in 2013 to strengthen ties between U-M and Detroit, the Connector runs three or four times a day from the U-M's Central Campus Transit Center to the university's Detroit Center at Woodward and MLK—the home base for students in the "Semester in Detroit" program. "It seemed a great opportunity to make the university more inclusive," says Mike Morland, a U-M spokesman.

The service is run under contract by Indian Trails. Originally funded by grants to the Detroit Center, it's now supported by the provost's office. The expanded service will cost about $400,000 a year, but the U-M hopes to earn back at least half of that from passenger fares—at $8 ($10 for non-affiliates) it's competitive with Greyhound's fluctuating fares, and delivers riders to the Cultural Center rather than downtown. A Facebook user recommends it as a great way "to explore some of the lectures, concerts, museums … in the beautiful, blossoming city of Detroit."

On a December Saturday afternoon, about twenty-five people were waiting at the transit center. Several students said they were visiting their families in Detroit; one said she appreciated that students on Pell Grants can ride free. A young man from Germany, visiting a friend in Ann Arbor, was going to Noel Night.

It's Ekphrastic! An "ekphrasis" is a literary work on a piece of visual piece of art—think John Keats' "Ode to a Grecian Urn." But why is a January 21 poetry and visual art event at WSG Gallery called "It's Ekphrastic"?

For WSG's *16 x 16* show, which opens in January, each of the gallery's sixteen members invited an outside artist they admire. This year's guest artists are a diverse group, working in ceramics, painting, printmaking, pastels, encaustic, assemblage, fibers, and photography. When the show opens, it will grow even more artistically diverse when ten poets visit the Main St. gallery, choose a piece they find inspiring, and write a poem about it.

Local poet Jennifer Burd helped mobilize the group. Though several had previously written ekphrasis-style poems, WSG artist Connie Crononwett says that Burd questioned using such a "strange and awkward" coinage as an event title. Crononwett, a landscape artist, came up with the compromise: "It's Ekphrastic," she thought, would sound suitably exotic, exciting, and vaguely scientific. The poets will be back to read their work on January 21 (see Events).



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Controversial Column

Talia Katz titled her Michigan Daily *op-ed "The Only Fascist, Sexist Bigot in the Classroom."*

A junior in the U-M's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, Katz obviously knew she'd offend some people by writing about her experiences as an outspoken campus conservative. Still, the extent of the reaction "was more than I expected," says the Atlanta native, twenty-one. In her November column, she wrote that she's been called "racist for criticizing some affirmative action programs," and accused of holding "a baseless hatred of Arabs" for her unabashed defense of Israel. Because of such "pervasive toxic rhetoric," she wrote, "I now sit quietly and hold my tongue."

After the article was published, Katz says she received more than fifty personal messages, many praising her for speaking out. *Detroit News* editorial page editor Nolan Finley interviewed her on his radio show, and a U-M professor messaged her, saying, "You'll be happy to hear we'll be discussing your article."

But there was plenty of pushback. Some students angrily told her the piece was "very offensive." And the controversy notched higher when a classmate, Alison Brown, responded with her own *Daily* op-ed. Brown slammed Katz for wearing an expensive Canada Goose coat to class while advocating "ideas that keep millions marginalized, poor and starving." She added, "I am glad that you do not feel comfortable in class spouting sexism, Islamophobia, bigotry, or fascist opinions."



MARK BIALEK

When Katz wrote that her classmates didn't appreciate political differences, one responded that she was glad Katz didn't feel "comfortable in class spouting sexism, Islamophopia, bigotry, or fascist opinions."

Katz, who says the coat was a gift from her grandmother, calls Brown's piece a "personal attack"—something Brown vehemently denies. The women have never spoken one-on-one; each says it is up to the other to initiate a dialogue.

The tensions aren't unique to the public policy school or to U-M. Conservative students have long complained of a ruling liberal orthodoxy at elite universities that's intolerant of dissent. A countervailing view holds that students, especially the poor and minorities, need a safe space free from harmful criticism.

Ford School associate dean Paula Lantz says faculty have been having meetings to discuss encouraging "political diversity."

Ford School associate dean for academic affairs Paula Lantz got in touch with Katz after reading the op-ed. "That some students don't feel they can express their political opinions—of course, that's alarming to us," she says. Faculty have been having meetings, she says, to discuss encouraging "political diversity" and recently organized a simulation exercise where students were randomly given political identities as "liberal" or "conservative" and asked to defend those positions in a hypothetical situation.

Lantz says that emotions on campus are running especially high because "we have a new [national] administration who have dramatically shifted policy directions and priorities." Katz is not a Trump supporter (she says she voted for "Never Trump" Republican Evan McMullin), but she says that the campus became "a lot more closed-minded" after the 2016 election.

She was nervous about publishing the column, she says, as were her parents. She was encouraged by a *Daily* editor and former sorority sister who, she says, "wanted me to write something, because she says the *Daily*'s views are very one-sided."

Katz says she came to Michigan for the "classic college experience," and that's what she's found here (it helps that she loves football). Seeking a career as a Middle East analyst, she puts a positive spin on the condemnation she's weathered.

"I think I'll be very prepared when I graduate to deal with the real world."

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"We've always had the philosophy that we have an obligation to give back. So we do," says Dan by phone from their University Commons home. They're originally from Sidney, Ohio, where Jill's parents owned the town newspaper. After Jill and Dan married, Dan joined the business in 1969 and became president soon afterward. It "grew quite rapidly," he says, to about 300 employees with the addition of specialty publications like magazines for coin and stamp collectors. After more than thirty years he retired in 2000. "I just burned out," he says. "Ran out of gas."

Dan's sister was a kindergarten teacher in Sidney for thirty-five years. She would tell the couple about kids who started school unprepared. They found that baffling, Dan says, until she explained that "most kids come with skills; like how to use scissors, how to identify colors, etc. If they don't have any skills, they're behind."

Dan and Jill started learning about preschools. After selling their interest in the family business, they established a Fidelity Charitable Giving Account to support early childhood education.

"It's not rocket science," says Dan. "We started a preschool in Sidney. We gave the [public] school system some money, and they said, 'We'll put it together.' " They offered four classes.

"The teacher who ran it was a super woman. She taught in rougher areas of Dayton, and she knew how to handle kids. None of the families knew where the money came from." But after the couple left Sidney, budgets were cut, and the preschool was cut, too.

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Contact your school for dates/times for readiness screening or attend the district screening event on 2/24/18. (See schedule on right).

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Kindergarten & Young Fives* Round-Up

Abbot Elementary*	Tuesday	2/27/18	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Allen Elementary*	Thursday	2/08/18	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Angell Elementary*	Thursday	2/22/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Ann Arbor Open	Wednesday	2/28/18	6:30 - 7:30 pm
A2 STEAM*	Wednesday	2/28/18	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Bach Elementary	Thursday	2/22/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Bryant/Pattengill*	Thursday	2/22/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Burns Park Elementary*	Thursday	2/22/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Carpenter Elementary*	Tuesday	2/27/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Dicken Elementary*	Tuesday	2/27/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Eberwhite Elementary*	Thursday	2/01/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Haisley Elementary*	Tuesday	2/20/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
King Elementary*	Thursday	2/22/18	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Lakewood Elementary*	Tuesday	2/27/18	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Lawton Elementary*	Thursday	2/01/18	6:00 - 7:00 pm
Logan Elementary*	Wednesday	2/07/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Mitchell Elementary*	Tuesday	2/20/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Pittsfield Elementary	Thursday	2/22/18	6:30 - 8:00 pm
Thurston Elementary	Thursday	2/22/18	6:00 - 7:30 pm
Wines Elementary*	Tuesday	2/06/18	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Considering Young Fives? Come for a kindergarten screening at the Early Childhood Expo (drop-in, no appointment necessary).			
W.Scott Westerman Preschool & Family Center	Saturday	2/24/18	10am - 2pm

*Indicates Young Fives Program. To be eligible for Young Fives, children must turn five years old between May 1 and December 1, 2018.



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Dan and Jill Francis got interested in preschools when Dan's sister told him she was seeing kindergartners who lack basic school skills. Child Care Network director Annette Sobocinski handles the contracts with parents and providers.

The couple retired to Ann Arbor in 2004—it is, they observe, "a very nice place to live." (They have a grown son in Montana and a daughter in Brooklyn, New York.) Once they settled in, they started looking around at Ann Arbor preschools. "And we ran into CCN," says Dan. He called and spoke to the director at the time, Jenny McAlpine. "She didn't know us from Adam. We said, 'Can we come talk to you?' " CCN had recently lost a chunk of funding from the state, so the Francises were a godsend. "It was smooth from the get-go," says Dan.

CCN serves seven Michigan counties from its Ann Arbor office on Research Park Dr., in space rented from the Center for Independent Living. In the last quarter of 2016, according to current director Annette Sobocinski, 365 Washtenaw County children from 215 families received scholarships at 104 early learning centers and childcare providers. The Francis donations are one of many streams funding CCN's FIRST Family Support Program. "It's a program designed to help at-risk families access high quality childcare," says Sobocinski.

"Child care is very expensive," she says. "We help [parents] pay. Typically, we pay a portion of tuition, depending on their income and financial situation. It's a contract between the family, [CCN], and the childcare provider. We all sign it." The parents choose the providers, but to be eligible for scholarships, Sobocinski says, they have to be "accredited or participate in Great Start to Quality, the state's tiered quality rating system."

A February 2016 press release from Fidelity credited the Francises' donations with helping put 743 low-income children through preschool. Sobocinski says by now it's many more than that. And their donation of $100,000-plus per year continues.

Sobocinski describes the Francises as "wonderful people, down-to-earth, very forward-thinking." Their support, she notes, changes the lives of parents as well as children: "Not only does it help their child access learning, but it helps families maintain employment [or] remain in school."

Sobocinski notes that the scholarships change the lives of parents as well as children: "It helps families maintain employment [or] remain in school."

In addition to scholarships and advice on choosing childcare, CCN has "a lending library, and it is open to all," Sobocinski points out. "It has toys, learning kits—and it's all free."

The Francises say their money for childcare has been well spent. "If you really want to get the most bang for your dollar," Dan says, "that's the place to spend it. If you can get kids on the right track then, it helps their whole lives."

The Francises had not previously spoken publicly about their giving, but Fidelity "outed" them in a press release. Now that their generosity is known, Dan says, "there's plenty of room for people to join the parade."

Busy Barbershop

Mike Bigelow has no fear that automation or competition from overseas will ruin his business.

Bigelow, thirty-three, says business is booming at his Varsity Barber Shop on Liberty just a few steps east of Main. He believes it is the second-oldest barbershop in Michigan (next to one in Petoskey), and he says customers come back partly because they can feel the





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MARK BIALEK

A third-generation barber, Bigelow was still a teenager in 2003 when he and his older brother bought the shop with help from their grandfather. Business was slow at first, but as downtown got busier, so did the Varsity.

living heritage—"the rich history of this place really propels the business."

A third-generation barber, Bigelow revels in local history. He says he gave longtime *Ann Arbor News* editor Art Gallagher his last haircut before he died in 2010 at age ninety-nine—and that Gallagher told him he'd had his first haircut at the same shop as a young man eighty-plus years earlier.

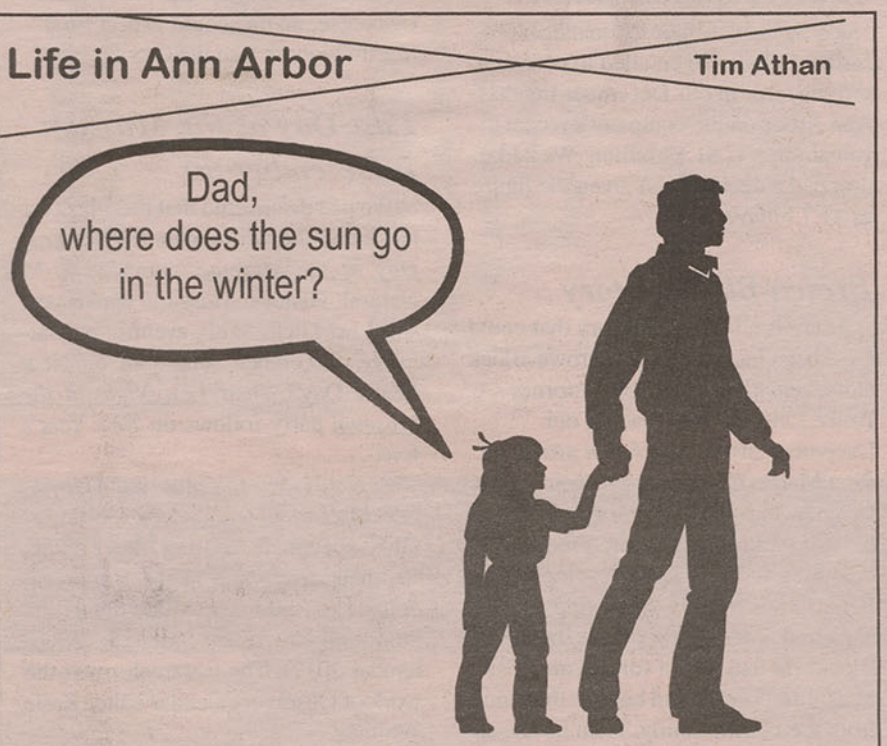
In the 1890s, the shop was in the building next door to the east, in part of the space Kilwin's occupies now. It moved to its current spot in 1907, and from the mid-1920s to the late 1990s it was run first by Leo Haner and then by his son Gene. Around the turn of the century it changed hands a couple times, spending a few years as "Paula & Friends" (Paula's Barber Shop is still open in Ypsi).

Mike was still a teenager when he and his older brother, Steve, bought the Liberty St. shop in 2003. They'd been working for their grandfather, Joe Koutz, at King's Men Barbers on Plymouth Rd., and he provided the money and bequeathed the name Varsity from a shop he'd previously owned on State St.

Koutz started cutting hair on a navy ship during the Korean War, a job he took when he was offered either that or swabbing the deck, Mike says. After the war he became a barber instructor and then went into business with Bob Burton. For many years they operated the original, long gone Varsity on State St. before moving to Plymouth Rd. Koutz also built a unique combination barbershop and car wash on Michigan Ave. in Saline; the shop is gone but the car wash is still there. Koutz retired in 2006 and died in 2011, but Mike's mother, Terry Biegas, is still barbering: she runs Keith's Barber Shop in Manchester.

When Bigelow and his brother took over the shop, downtown "wasn't as vibrant as it is now." He had to drum up business by putting business cards on car

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windshields in parking structures. His best move, he says, was buying an ad in the *Detroit Free Press* in 2004 during the Pistons' championship run. His small ad ended up being placed right next to the game story when they won the NBA title, and "every man in Detroit saw it," he swears.

The shop's barber chairs were bought new in 1961—"you know you have a good classic set of chairs when they have a built-in ashtray," he says. He started rehabbing the old six-foot barber pole in 2004 and hopes to complete the job soon, but he may need a variance from the city to do so. He can recite the history of barber poles—first they were red because barbers, who doubled as surgeons, wrapped bloody towels around their front doors; the blue was added when barbers also started dispensing medicines.

On May 31, 2008, Steve Bigelow was killed in a motorcycle accident. Mike and two employees carried on. Even during the Great Recession they worked steadily, because many customers needed haircuts for job interviews or simply to keep a job. The late local legend Shakey Jake would come by most days to liven things up and talk and talk; Bigelow has one of Harvey Drouillard's photos of Jake embracing a naked young woman in the back of the shop.

Now downtown is booming, and business has really picked up. He's hired more help, and the five chairs in his shop's small waiting area are often filled. The shop also has an old child's barber chair, and they see plenty of women and children as customers.

Bigelow's extended family hails from the Dundee area, but many have moved to the Irish Hills. He lives in Onsted with wife Nicole and toddlers Dolly and Joseph and commutes the hour to Ann Arbor daily. It's worth it, he says, to be a fixture downtown.

Bigelow jokes that his is "the world's second-oldest profession" and says he'd like to see the shop keep going for another century. He even dreams that his son will someday take it over—because, he boldly predicts, in the future "people are still gonna need a haircut."

question corner

Q. What was the coldest day ever in Ann Arbor?

A. February 11, 1885, when the temperature fell to -23 Fahrenheit. It was one of a series of tough winters—"The Little Ice Age" of the 1880s—which set many records that still stand. Some climatologists attribute the harsh winters to the dust and ash thrown into the upper atmosphere by the massive eruption of the Indonesian volcano Krakatoa in August 1883.

The second-coldest reading is much more recent: 22 below zero on January 19, 1994, when an arctic air mass of historic proportions settled over the state. An all-time low state temperature would have been set that day with a reading of -53 in Amasa, a town of a few hundred in the U.P., but the thermometer site was disqualified for being too close to the monitor's house.

Got a question? Email question@aaobserver.com

calls & letters

A $1.17 billion unicorn

Duo Security senior PR manager Jordan Fylonenko emailed to correct a serious error in our December Inside Ann Arbor on the company's recent valuation: it is $1.17 billion. We had dropped a decimal and given the figure as $1.7 billion.

Brown Block history

"There is a bit more history that could have been included in the Brown Block story," emailed former city attorney Bruce Laidlaw after reading our December Inside Ann Arbor article on First Martin Corporation's decision not to renew the city's lease on downtown's biggest parking lot. Before First Martin bought it, Laidlaw says, developer Dick Berger "was heavily promoting a hotel and conference center on the Brown Block. He had lots of folks scared. Bill Martin stepped in and bought the block from the Brown family. Then he leased the block to the City. Bill was a hero. Of course, no one could expect First Martin to lease it to the City forever."

Last Day at the Museum is December 30

"We just discovered that the Observer has listed the wrong date for our *Last Day at the Museum*," emailed U-M Natural History Museum spokesperson Lori Dick. "This event is on Saturday, December 30th—not on New Year's Day." Their *Last Night at the Museum* party follows on New Year's Eve.

We also failed to credit our December cartoon, which showed the museum's specimens exiting the rotunda for their new home in the Biological Sciences Building ("Why Did the Dinosaur Cross the Sidewalk," September 2017). The watercolor was the work of Observer calendar editor Katie Whitney.

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Outside

by Bob & Jorja Feldman

Canada Geese

Coexisting with a bird that's both Beauty and Beast



We check out the weather each morning by the simple expedient of stepping outside. This time of year, when we first venture out, we're often greeted by the honking of Canada geese. Watching them pass overhead in their iconic "V" formations awakes the adrenaline and stirs up a sense of life beyond smartphones.

We turned to Juliet Berger, the Ann Arbor city ornithologist, to find out more about these big beauties. Most of the ones we see, she explains, are really not going anywhere. While migrating flocks passing through may be headed as far as South America, most remain in the area year-round, leaving only if they can no longer find open water. The ones we see overhead are most likely going to a different local venue, perhaps a cornfield where they can forage for waste grain.

Canada geese pair up for life and breed at the location where the female originally came from. Each spring, a pair will hatch a brood of up to ten goslings.



Canada geese pair up for life and breed at the location where the female originally came from. Each spring, a pair will hatch a brood of up to ten goslings, who will stay with their parents for a year.



Berger estimates the average lifespan of those who survive long enough to fledge is fifteen to twenty years, although she knows of one wild bird who made it to thirty and one in captivity who lived to forty-three.

The subspecies we see here are mostly the well-named giant Canada goose. Although these are wild birds, they don't require a wilderness habitat. In fact, they are fond of short grasses, like those on lawns. Golf courses are heaven on earth for these birds; the courses, however, don't consider the birds so heavenly.

Although these geese were thought to be close to extinction decades ago, wildlife management and their successful adaptation to civilization have contributed to a population explosion. This in turn has triggered the law of unintended consequences. One such consequence is an overwhelming amount of goose poop on golf courses, city sidewalks and parking lots, and nature trails, and, frequently, on the soles of our hiking boots.

They can also be aggressive towards people. We believe that this is a learned behavior caused by people feeding the birds. (That's against park rules, says Berger, but we see it happening all the time.) Birds who have not been hand-fed often will walk away from people who approach them unless they are defending a nest.

How can we find a way to comfortably coexist? The Michigan DNR gives extensive advice on "conflicts and control techniques" on its website (goo.gl/Uewyjn), including repellants, "scare devices," and herding dogs. A few years ago, the Observer reported that the U-M was using border collies to move along geese that are harassing families entering the North Campus Children's Center.

The need to find a balance in our relationship with an animal that's both a beauty and a beast is summed up nicely on the DNR website: "Remember, giant Canada geese are thriving in large part because of the landscape changes brought on by human development. Some level of tolerance for the many other state residents, including Canada geese, must be expected of today's growing human population." ■

PHOTOS: BOB & JORJA FELDMAN

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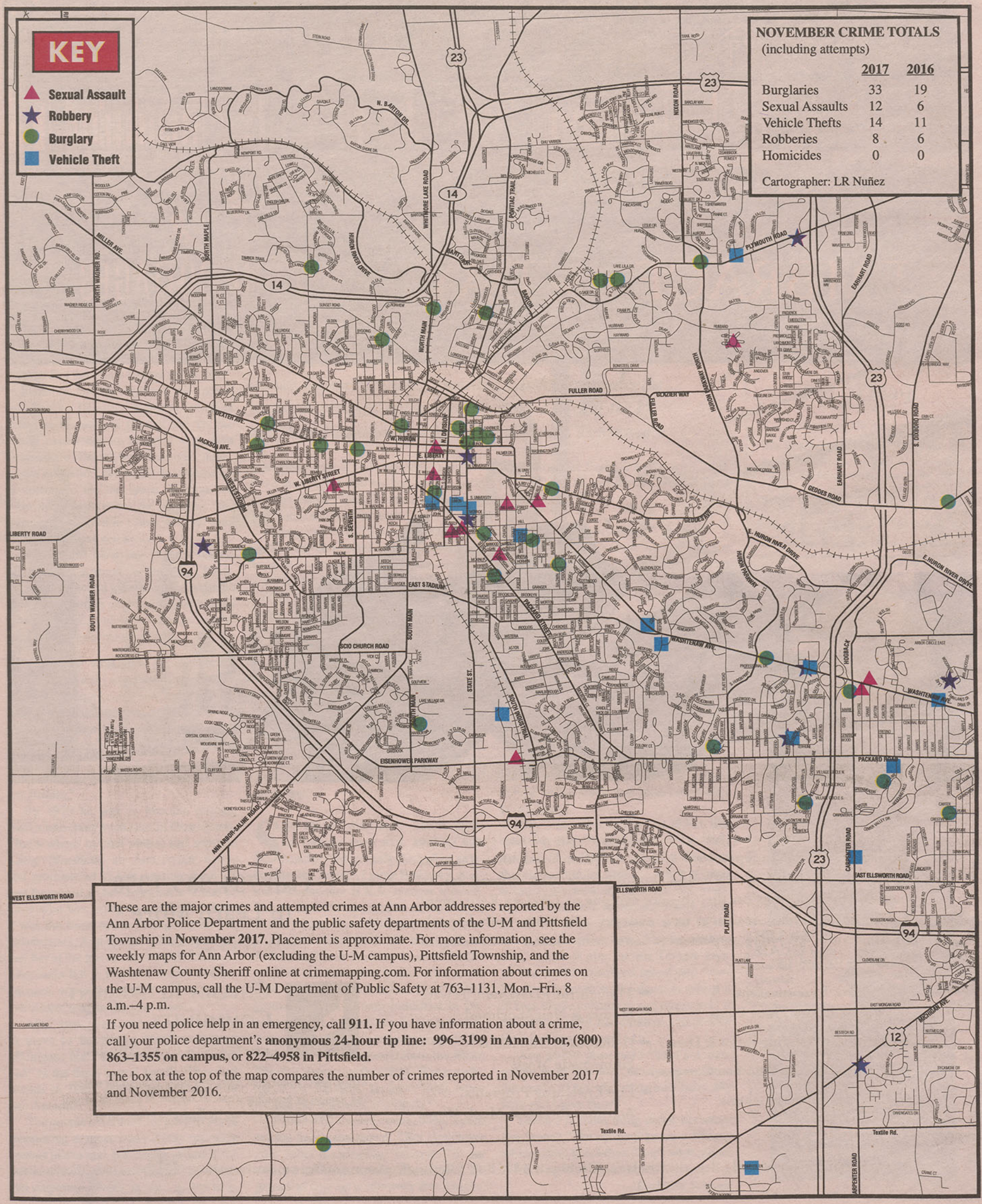




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CrimeMap


KEY
Sexual Assault
Robbery
Burglary
Vehicle Theft
NOVEMBER CRIME TOTALS
(including attempts)
2017 2016
Burglaries 33 19
Sexual Assaults 12 6
Vehicle Thefts 14 11
Robberies 8 6
Homicides 0 0
Cartographer: LR Nuñez
These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in November 2017. Placement is approximate. For more information, see the weekly maps for Ann Arbor (excluding the U-M campus), Pittsfield Township, and the Washtenaw County Sheriff online at crimemapping.com. For information about crimes on the U-M campus, call the U-M Department of Public Safety at 763–1131, Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–4 p.m.
If you need police help in an emergency, call 911. If you have information about a crime, call your police department's anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus, or 822–4958 in Pittsfield.
The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in November 2017 and November 2016.
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BARTON
HURON PARKWAY
FULLER ROAD
GLAZIER WAY
S. DIXBORO ROAD
DEXTER AVE.
JACKSON AVE.
W. HURON
N. DIVISION
E. LIBERTY
W. LIBERTY STREET
WEST STADIUM
S. SEVENTH
GEDDES AVE.
GEDDES ROAD
E. HURON RIVER DRIVE
HURON PARKWAY
LIBERTY ROAD
SOUTH WAGNER ROAD
SCIO CHURCH ROAD
SOUTH MAIN
EAST STADIUM
PACKARD STREET
WASHTENAW AVE.
STATE ST.
SOUTH INDUSTRIAL
HOBBACK
EISENHOWER PARKWAY
ANN ARBOR-SALINE ROAD
PACKARD ROAD
CARPENTER ROAD
EAST ELLSWORTH ROAD
WEST ELLSWORTH ROAD
PLATT ROAD
MICHIGAN AVE.
EAST MORGAN ROAD
WEST MORGAN ROAD
PLEASANT LAKE ROAD
Textile Rd.
23
14
94
12



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By the sound



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

He's been at the store so long, and knows so much, that a lot of people think he's the owner. "And that's great," says the real owner, Glenn Bourland. Invisibly, Leech also curates the exquisite classical music that's as much a part of the By the Pound experience as bringing your own Tupperware.

As the sun streams through the windows at By the Pound, Michael Leech pours fresh coffee beans into plastic dispensers. Slight of stature and unassuming in metal-framed glasses and black tennis shoes with thick rubber soles, the soft-spoken Englishman has worked at the bulk foods store for twenty-two years. He's been here so long and knows so much that a lot of people think he's the owner. "And that's great," says the real owner, Glenn Bourland.

Leech does everything at the store on South Industrial from restocking bins to inventory to helping with ordering. A coworker describes him as "the go-to tea man." Leech nods. "I like coffee, but being English I'm not going to give up the tea."

Invisibly, he also curates the store's soundtrack. Hearing exquisite classical music is as much a part of the By the Pound experience as bringing your own Tupperware. Drawn from his own "huge" record collection, the music is dynamically optimized for the space. Without his software manipulations, he explains, "the soft stuff you couldn't hear and the loud stuff would blast you away."

Asked what's playing at the moment, he answers without hesitation, "Rachmaninoff's second symphony." A shopper hums along while strolling by the bins of nuts and seeds, and, as he crosses over to the candy, breaks into a whistle.

Before he worked at By the Pound, Leech was a professional cellist. "First time I came here I was playing with the Scottish National Orchestra," he recalls as he rests his hands on the counter. "The first place we played in the United States was in Ann Arbor, in Hill Auditorium. It was in 1975. It was the first time I'd left Britain."

By 1979 he was in Mexico, playing with a university orchestra in Guanajuato. That's where he met violist and soprano Kathy Worsham, an Ann Arbor native and graduate of U-M's music school. "I just happened to be seeing off a friend of mine who was going to—actually I think it was the same bus he was going on—to Guadalajara. And she got off that bus. So I met her at the bus station by pure chance." They soon fell in love and moved to Guadalajara, where he played in an orchestra and Kathy sang in the state choir.

After two years, the couple decided to move to the States. They considered Michigan, but "the economy was really bad" at the time, Leech recalls. They had friends in Texas and decided to move to San Antonio.

The couple lived there for a dozen years, freelancing as musicians—Kathy played in various places and also taught strings in the public schools, and Leech played weddings and corporate events, as well as concerts, ensembles, operas, and musicals at a downtown theater. He also backed singers such as Tom Jones, Burt Bacharach, Smokey Robinson, and Rod Stewart.

Kathy also earned a nursing degree that opened the door to returning to her hometown to be closer to her parents. She got a job at the U-M, and in 1995 the couple moved into a duplex owned by Kathy's parents on Pauline near Stadium. That's when they became regulars at By the Pound, then nearby on S. Main.

Leech had hoped to continue in music, but his eyesight was getting worse, "and to play in orchestras really does require good eyesight." One day when Kathy was shopping at By the Pound, Bourland asked if she knew of anybody who was looking for work. She basically interviewed on her husband's behalf, and that's how his tenure began.

Still fit at sixty-four, Leech credits Iyengar yoga with keeping him healthy. "We're really lucky," he says, because his teacher, Laurie Blakeney, studied with founder B.K.S. Iyengar himself. Due to Leech's eyesight he doesn't drive or ride a bike. Since Blakeney's early bird yoga class starts before the buses run, he walks a half hour from his house off Miller to get to her downtown studio, often in the dark, then walks back home. Since By the Pound moved to South Industrial in December 2016, he takes two buses each way to work. If they don't connect properly, he walks the two miles home from the Blake Transit Center, mostly uphill. "I like walking, it's no big deal," he says. "Well, when we get bad blizzards, it's chaos."

Besides the missed connections, Leech misses being downtown. "But downtown Ann Arbor is changing," he says. "To my way of thinking, not for the better." He pauses to ring up a customer then laughs, "Well, the old fogies always see it that way, right? *The world's not what it used to be.*"

"Two ninety-nine," exclaims a sharply dressed woman as she plops a sack of gummy worms on the scale, then adds with a laugh, "as you know." Leech does indeed know most of the store's prices by heart. "He is amazingly knowledgeable," says another customer, Eric Bassey. "And he's a really good guy." Bassey places bags of peanut butter–filled pretzels and chocolate-covered treats on the counter and announces that he has "all the American food groups—salt, sugar," and, Leech adds, "fat."

A vegetarian, Leech has been cooking Indian food since his college days in Glasgow. He expanded the store's selection of Indian foods and spices soon after he got here.

"My wife used to say she didn't like food that hurt," Leech says. When they married, "I had to do really mild. But over the years, little by little … which is good because we went to India for our yoga, and she was able to eat and really enjoy it." Leech adds, "We have a lot of the more exotic spices here, like the asafoetida," which is also known, Google says, as "the world's smelliest spice" and "devil's dung." Leech walks down to where it is kept inside containers and opens one: if onions and garlic had children, this is what their feet would smell like.

Any guilty pleasures? "That's a dangerous aisle, that one," he says, pointing to the candy. "Dark chocolate malt balls. My wife and I love those."

Leech's favorite thing about his adoptive home? "The people," he says. "That's what makes Ann Arbor. That's what makes this job so incredible, too."

—Kathleen Schenck

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BRAD FOERSTER

Says he blew the whistle on "fraud" by co-investigator on an NIH research grant; **U-M found zero evidence.**



MYRIA PETROU

Claims an AAPD detective caused her miscarriage by getting bank accounts frozen.



PAUL CRONIN

Colleague and friend came to couple's aid, **loaning them at least $150,000.**



THE BATTLE OF GEDDES RIDGE

by MICHAEL BETZOLD

Two U-M doctors set out to build a dream house. It's been a nightmare for all involved.



MARIA PETROU

Myria Petrou's mother. Went to the police after her daughter **emptied her investment account.**

CHRISTOPHER LAYCOCK

Dream home builder. Says his wife **killed herself** the day Petrou and Foerster missed a **$200,000 payment.**





MARIAN FAUPEL

Laycock's first attorney: "I've never seen anyone **litigate with as much malice"** as Petrou and Foerster.



"NICK"

Anonymous caller accuses Petrou and Foerster of **extorting money** from Cronin.

"RAISING THE FLAG"

In September, a colorful banner appeared on the side of a trophy home on Ann Arbor's east side. It bore a stylized image of a bird and the words "GoosiLeaks / The Story of Belief & Betrayal."

A photo of the banner was published online at goosileaks.blogspot.com with the headline "Raising the Flag." Other posts soon welcomed readers who'd seen ads for the blog in the *Tuscola County Advertiser*, the *Cyprus Mail*, and the Observer.

Michigan's Thumb, an island in the Mediterranean, and Ann Arbor are connected through the blog's creators, U-M physicians Brad Foerster and Myria Petrou. Though it says it's "about our life experiences in Ann Arbor," posts on the couple and their two young children are rare. GoosiLeaks is mostly devoted to the many disputes swirling around the couple's dream house off Geddes Rd. With dueling lawsuits, a criminal investigation, family conflicts, and allegations of wrongful death, it's a tale so byzantine that, in an email posted on the blog, a friend of the couple compares it to a Greek tragedy—or a soap opera.

In their blog and in court, Foerster and Petrou claim that the builder of their dream home, Christopher Laycock, committed bank fraud. Laycock says the couple defrauded *him*. He's suing to collect liens for $274,000 in unpaid work.

The couple also contend that their constitutional rights were violated when a local magistrate froze their bank accounts after Petrou's mother went to the Ann Arbor Police Department for help locating hundreds of thousands of dollars that disappeared from an investment account. According to Petrou and Foerster, Petrou's mother *wanted* the money taken from the account belonging to her and her husband; they say she went to the police "to try to force [Petrou] back into a relationship with her."

Petrou and Foerster have sued the Bank of Ann Arbor in an unsuccessful attempt to halt foreclosure on a $1.5 million loan. And they've filed professional complaints against the architects who designed their home, the accountant who audited Laycock's liens, Laycock's attorney, and an attorney who represented them against Laycock.

They've also filed lawsuits in state and federal courts against Laycock, architect Theresa Angelini, the City of Ann Arbor, two AAPD detectives, and Petrou's mother, Maria Petrou. The suits allege that some or all of the defendants violated the couple's rights under the Fourth, Fifth, and Fourteenth amendments, defamed them, and caused Petrou's miscarriage.

"I've never seen anyone litigate with as much malice as they have," says veteran attorney Marian Faupel—herself the target of one of the professional complaints. In court Faupel fired back, blaming Laycock's wife's suicide on stress his business suffered from the dispute with the doctors over payment for his construction work.

The Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission ruled against Foerster and Petrou's complaint about Faupel, who retired from the case last summer. She says her small firm was simply overwhelmed. "I can't do five lawsuits in three different jurisdictions," she says. "Litigation was coming out of the sky."

With dueling lawsuits, a criminal investigation, family conflicts, and allegations of wrongful death, it's a tale so byzantine that, in an email posted on the blog, a friend of the couple compares it to a Greek tragedy—or a soap opera.

Laycock's current attorney, Jeremy Kennedy, declined to comment for this article, as did city officials and many individuals targeted in the couple's lawsuits and complaints. "Everybody feels sort of terrorized," Faupel opines.

Foerster and Petrou did not respond to interview requests; nor did their attorneys. But in court filings, they've called Laycock's lawsuit "punitive, retaliatory and extortionate." One of their attorneys offered $80,000 to settle the liens, less than one-third of the total. When Faupel proposed mediation, another attorney emailed that he'd recommend it only if the project's architects, Theresa and Brad Angelini, "bring their checkbook or deed to their home with surrender of their licenses. Laycock's license is at risk as well. You and Laycock wanted a fight to the death and you should be overjoyed at your accomplishment."

Today, the huge Prairie-style dream house crouches on a dusty, weed-choked lot with no lawn. The lot next door, originally planned as a homesite for Petrou's parents, stands empty.

THE DREAM HOUSE

Foerster went to high school in Caro on his way to medical school at the U-M. Petrou, a native of Cyprus, arrived a few years later for postgraduate training in radiology. They married in 2004, and both are now on the faculty of the U-M Department of Radiology. Foerster, forty-seven, is an associate professor earning $160,000 a year and also works at the VA Ann Arbor Health System, where he earned $255,487 in the fiscal year ending September 2016. Petrou, forty-two, is a U-M assistant professor, making $200,000.

They used to live in a two-story colonial in a secluded subdivision off Chalmers Dr. near Arborland. But about six years ago they set out to build something grander—and a lot more expensive.

Their 10,000-square-foot dream house would have four bedrooms, a three-car garage, and a rooftop deck. An elevator. *Eight* bathrooms. And a staircase cantilevered so that the treads seemed to be floating on air.

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THE BATTLE OF GEDDES RIDGE

near Gallup Park, the couple bought two adjoining lots for $256,000 apiece—one for their dream house and one for Maria and Petros Petrou, retired high school principals who'd joined their daughter and grandchildren in Ann Arbor.

In 2012 Foerster and Petrou hired the Angelinis to design both homes—but according to Laycock's lawsuit, they also consulted an architect in Greece throughout the construction. Their first builder, the lawsuit says, estimated the work could be done for less than $125 per square foot; Laycock said a realistic price would have been $250–$300. Unsurprisingly, the project sank midstream.

According to Faupel the house stood half-finished, with no windows and a temporary roof, for more than a year before the couple hired Laycock, a builder of custom homes based in Saline. The two sides came to disagree strongly on the terms of their contract and the amount in dispute. But according to Laycock's lawsuit, he found the house with a basement filled with debris and animals and the walls three inches out of plumb.

The couple simplified the plan somewhat, scrapping the rooftop deck. But according to Laycock's complaint they failed to make a promised initial payment and didn't keep up with mounting costs as they added upgrades like white oak flooring and a glass staircase railing.

Renee Laycock took her own life July 7, 2015. Once an accountant for Faupel's law firm, she also kept the books for her husband's construction business. In his lawsuit, Laycock writes that his wife "died on the day a significant payment from Foerster and Petrou was due." According to Faupel, the money would have covered $200,000 owed to suppliers and subcontractors. Faupel says her former employee had been struggling with mental health issues and that the shock of learning the payment was not coming "helped push Renee over the top."

The following month, the doctors got a $1.5 million construction loan from the Bank of Ann Arbor, mortgaging their colonial on Brian Ct. as part of the deal. Though $300,000 went to pay off an existing loan from Old National Bank, according to Laycock's complaint the couple repeatedly assured him the new bank loan gave them the funds needed to finish the work. But by mid-2016, even as the dream house was nearing completion, Laycock and the doctors were deeply at odds over payments and the contract terms.

According to Laycock's complaint, even after the family moved into the home in November 2016 with a temporary certificate of occupancy, he continued sending in subcontractors for final touches. At least one of them, glass supplier Glasco Corp., ended up suing him, though unsuccessfully. According to Faupel, other subcontractors have never been paid.

A FAMILY TORN APART

Myria Petrou was once so close to her parents that she planned a home for them next door. Now they haven't talked in months and are legal adversaries. A blog post reveals that Fr. Nicolaos Kotsis, the priest at St. Nicolas Greek Orthodox Church, was enlisted as an intermediary in a failed attempt to get the couple's children to see their grandfather on his birthday in October. (Kotsis did not return calls.)

When Petrou's parents arrived in Ann Arbor, they signed a power of attorney giving their daughter significant control over their life savings of nearly $1 million. In her counter-complaint to her daughter's civil suit, Maria Petrou contends that she and her husband (who has since been diagnosed with dementia and Parkinson's) were misled into signing documents they didn't understand.

According to an affidavit by AAPD detective Brad Rougeau, in November 2016 Myria Petrou emptied her parents' Merrill Lynch investment account, transferring nearly $234,000 to her own PNC account. In her counter-complaint, Maria Petrou charges that her daughter and son-in-law "unlawfully" took her and her husband's funds "for their own use including additions to an expensive new residence."

In the blog, the couple write that Myria Petrou took the money with her mother's permission. But Maria Petrou's attorney, Jim Reach, says his client wasn't told about the withdrawal. At around the same time, he says, Petrou broke off all communication with her parents.

Reach says that Maria Petrou went to the AAPD for help in determining what happened to her money but never asked for criminal charges against the couple. After interviewing her, however, Rougeau initiated an embezzlement investigation.

GoosiLeaks tells a very different tale. According to the blog, Petrou had a miscarriage on February 16. She called her mother to tell her but "received no sympathy and no acknowledgement for her loss." Instead, the couple write, "Maria was yelling about her accounts, that Maria had 'no choice' but to go to the police to 'get to Myria.' "

In their state and federal lawsuits, the couple blames the miscarriage on stress from Rougeau's investigation. By initiating two searches and seizures of their bank assets, they charge, he acted "either intentionally to harm or with gross reckless disregard for … whether damage or harm would result to Myria Petrou or her unborn child."

The first seizure, authorized by district court magistrate Tamara Garwood based on Rougeau's affidavit, occurred February 9; the second took place March 13, almost four weeks *after* the miscarriage. The wrongful death claim has since been dismissed in state court, but not in the federal case, which has moved more slowly.

Mother and daughter remain estranged. In a December blog post, Petrou reported receiving a voicemail from her mother saying that her father's health was failing "and all he wants is to see his grandkids." Petrou responded by blaming her mother's "false testimony" for keeping the children from their grandparents—and directing her lawyer to stop her mother from contacting her.



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

A flag promoting the couple's "tale of belief and betrayal" hangs from the 10,000-square-foot house at the center of the battle. They've advertised their blog in Michigan's Thumb, the island of Cyprus, and the Observer.

"STANDING UP FOR CIVIL RIGHTS"

A Thanksgiving Day post on GoosiLeaks places the couple's legal battles in the context of historic crusades for social justice. They write that they are "standing up for Civil Rights and providing a small but we think important example to society around us." While activists such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. "faced far worse violations of their Civil Rights," they acknowledge, "their prior struggles have allowed us to have a voice in these challenges today."

Foerster and Petrou have written to many U.S. senators and local doctors and complained to governor Rick Snyder and attorney general Bill Schuette about "police corruption" and a "conspiracy" against them. They've made similar charges to Ann Arbor mayor Christopher Taylor, city councilmembers, and police chief Jim Baird. They told the FBI that they believe Laycock committed bank fraud. In addition to Faupel and the Angelinis, they filed formal complaints against their original attorney in the construction case, Ed Hood, and accountant Russ Agosta, who at Hood's request did an audit of the construction liens. They tried to get one local court to take over their case from another. To date, none of those efforts have succeeded.

Foerster and Petrou have posted many legal documents from the case on GoosiLeaks. The blog also features more than two dozen recordings of conversations with their enemies and allies. ("Virtually any contact with these two people is taped," says an exasperated attorney for one of their adversaries.) In one recording, Foerster asks a fellow U-M radiologist, Aine Kelly, why Maria Petrou might be "making up these false allegations against us? … What do you think her objective is?"

Kelly answers: "To bring pain to all of us."

"What do you think the truth is?" Foerster persists.

"*We're* the truth," Kelly replies.

In another recorded call, Foerster tells his mother, Shirley Foerster, that the couple "had no choice" but to sue Petrou's mother. He also complains that his mother-in-law's proposed witness list includes his children. Yet the couple themselves have repeatedly involved the children in their disputes. In a video posted on the blog, Foerster asks their daughter Maria—named for her grandmother—why she thinks "your Grandma says that you might not belong to us?"

"Cause she wants to take me to California," the youngster replies.

"Why would she want to do that?" Foerster continues.

"Because she wants you and mommy to be sad."

Maria Petrou and her husband still live in Ann Arbor. The blog offers no explanation of why or how she might want to take the children to somewhere in California.

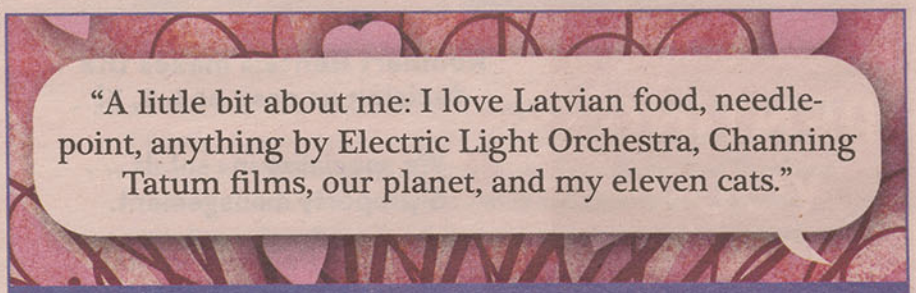
Then there's a remarkable November post that includes an affidavit from Petrou that she's never abused her children nor had extramarital sex. The Observer could find no record of anyone accusing Petrou of child abuse—unless you count a sarcastic remark in a 2016 email from Laycock. (After assuring the couple that the home's heating and cooling system posed no threat, he made a snarky joke about calling Child Protective Services if they were still worried.) And what the blog calls a "fabricated sex scandal" seems to be a response to a cryptic comment by Rougeau, the AAPD detective, about the couple's "complicated relationship" with Aine Kelly's husband, Paul Cronin.

A GENEROUS COLLEAGUE

Cronin—yet another U-M radiologist—has loaned Foerster and Petrou at least $150,000 during the house construction. In a deposition on June 20, 2017, Cronin said he provided $80,000 and later $50,000 more, simply because the couple told him they were short on cash—and that he since has paid at least another $20,000 in attorney fees to lawyer Cyril Hall, who was jointly representing them and him.

Cronin and Kelly, both natives of Ireland, are longtime friends with Foerster and Petrou. They have children of similar







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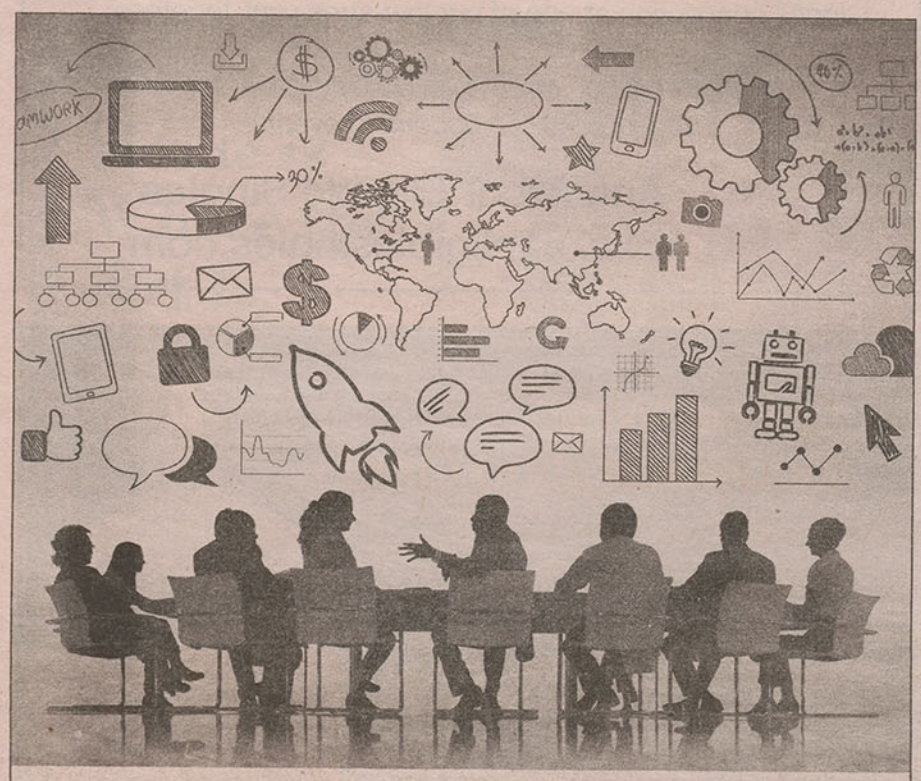
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THE BATTLE OF GEDDES RIDGE

ages and have vacationed together. Cronin joined the couple in court in April 2017—"I went as moral support for my friends," he said at his deposition— and acknowledged paying a retainer to Hall.

Though Cronin's initial loan was in August 2016, Faupel notes in the deposition that the promissory note was not notarized until three days after the April 2017 court date. The loan carries no interest and is not repayable until December 2027. "I trust my friends to pay me back," Cronin testified in the deposition.

If the story weren't already tangled enough, the night before the April court date Laycock reportedly got a series of anonymous phone calls. Faupel, his attorney at the time, says she got one too. During the deposition in June, Faupel played recordings of a man, who claimed to be a work colleague and called himself "Nick," claiming Foerster was extorting money from Cronin. In subsequent emails to Faupel, "Nick" claimed Cronin was drinking a lot, arguing so much that neighbors called police, and selling properties in Ireland to fund his friends' legal battles. In keeping with the soap opera nature of the story, "Nick" claimed to Faupel another, more intimate reason that Cronin was entangled. The exact accusation is not public, but the doctors alluded to it in the "fabricated sex scandal" post.

So far, attempts to track down "Nick" have failed. In the "fabricated sex scandal" post, the doctors include the email Nick used in communications with Faupel. No one answered the Observer's messages to that address.

END GAME

The doctors' legal crusades have so far made little headway. When they tried to delay the foreclosure sales for their two houses, judge Archie Brown not only ruled against them but ordered them to pay the bank's attorney, LeRoy Asher, more than $11,000. He has also ruled that Laycock's liens are valid. In the doctors' state lawsuit, the couple have dropped all defendants except Laycock and Maria Petrou. In their federal suit, they've dropped the Angelinis as defendants, and the city has moved to be dismissed as well.

As the Observer went to press, however, the Battle of Geddes Ridge was still raging. The AAPD's report on the embezzlement investigation was in the hands of the county prosecutor. "Once the investigation has been reviewed, we will know if criminal charges will be filed," emails AAPD public information officer Matt Lige. "I have no time line as to when we will hear from the prosecutor's office."

Meanwhile, the legal bills continue to mount. Faupel says her firm alone has spent at least $200,000 and that Asher has budgeted $250,000 to defend the Bank of Ann Arbor in court. (Asher didn't return phone calls.)

The costly court battles may be starting to weigh on the doctors—and their attorneys. Cyril Hall, who's handling both their state and federal lawsuits, asked the state court to let him withdraw after Petrou emailed the court in September saying she and her husband wanted to represent themselves. Hall later withdrew his motion, but in November attorneys Michael Reynolds and Mark Evans, who were defending the couple against Laycock's original suit, made a similar request. They cited a breakdown in communication—and also a lack of payment. In a December order, Judge Brown approved their request.

In December, the GoosiLeaks banner was still hanging on the house on Geddes Ridge. It may not be there much longer, however. Both that home and their old home on Brian Ct. went into foreclosure this past summer. If the doctors don't redeem them by February 3, the Bank of Ann Arbor will own them.

Foerster and Petrou would need to come up with more than $1 million to retain their 10,000-square-foot trophy home. But they could redeem Brian Ct. for less than $100,000—and according to a December GoosiLeaks post, that process has already started. After all the financial and emotional pain surrounding their dream house, the family may end up back where they started six years ago. ■

BATTLING THE U

While fighting to hold onto their dream house, Bradley Foerster and Myria Petrou have also been involved in controversy at Michigan Medicine.

Foerster and a radiology department colleague, Robert Welsh, are co-principal investigators on a National Institutes of Health research grant. In August 2014, Duaa Altaee was hired as their research coordinator. In the spring of 2015, Altaee filed a charge of sexual harassment and retaliation with the U-M Office for Institutional Equity (OIE) against Welsh and the department. Foerster filed a related charge, saying that he was a witness to the alleged harassment and that Welsh had retaliated against him, too.

Foerster and Petrou also accuse Welsh of defrauding the NIH. Last summer, Petrou emailed the agency to accuse Welsh of receiving money for work he hadn't performed. Welsh left for the University of Utah in 2016; neither he nor Altaee could be reached for comment. Mary Masson of Michigan Medicine's office of communication won't say why Welsh left but does say he still officially has a job at U-M. Citing institutional privacy policies, university officials decline to comment on the harassment complaint.

Masson says the U-M general counsel's office took the fraud charge "very seriously. We've conducted an extensive review but have not found anything to substantiate any of the allegations." Foerster, however, continues to insist that fraud was committed—in a July mass email, he called it a "whistleblower case."

In one of the story's many bizarre twists, the couple write in their blog that Altaee will be "the primary witness in our conspiracy case in the federal court." They don't explain how a U-M research coordinator might have learned about alleged machinations between their builder, architect, bank, family members, and the Ann Arbor police. But Altaee does have at least one connection to the dream house: after Foerster and Petrou moved out of their former home behind Arborland, Altaee and her husband moved in.

—M.B.



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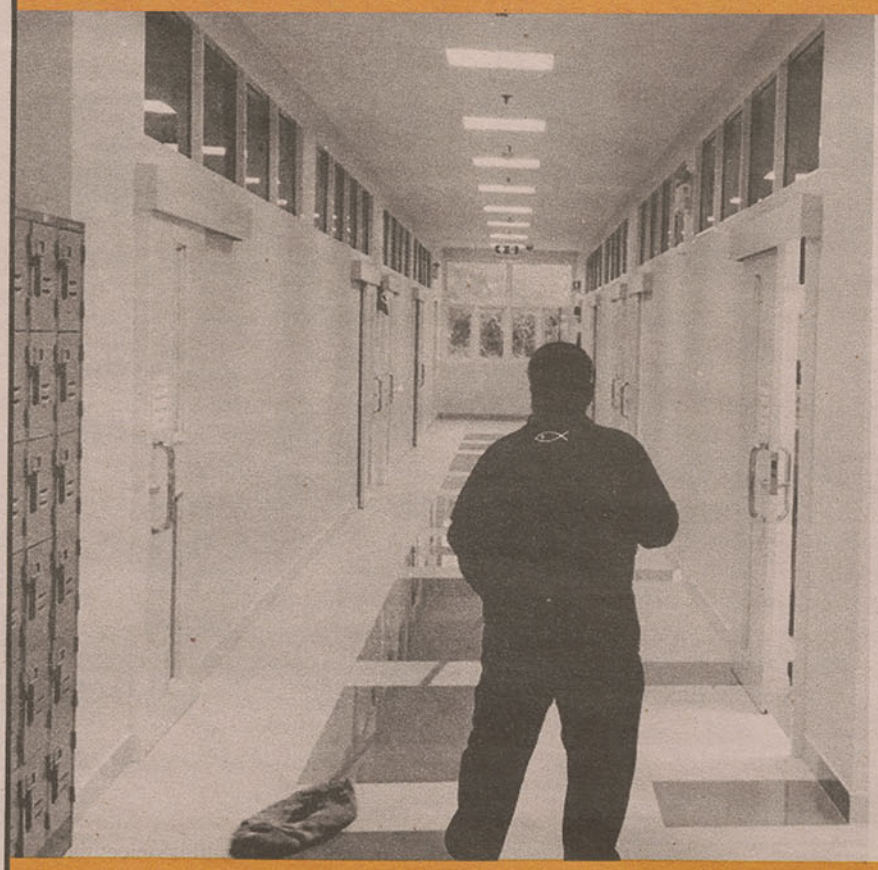
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The Raw Strength and Courage Club

Kayaking the Cascades in the cold

by John C. Heider



JOHN C. HEIDER

You may have seen them some freezing afternoon: dipping in and out of the frigid waters, their exposed skin neon pinkish in its reaction to the constant chill, icicles forming on their beards or hair. It's an amazing sight—and even more amazing once you've realized that they were not suffering an accident on the Argo Cascades but rather purposefully and even joyfully plunging their boats and bodies into the arctic-like waters of the Huron River again and again in the middle of winter.

The hardy souls enjoying the waters of the seven mini-rapids of the Cascades in their short, teardrop-shaped, highly maneuverable play boats are members of the U-M Raw Strength and Courage Kayak Club. The club admits non-students but must maintain a more-than-50-percent Maize and Blue membership. Many students are away during the warmer months, and even some of those who are in town prefer to avoid the crowds from spring through fall, when tubers and less-committed kayakers clog the Cascades. That leaves the Raw Strengthers to concentrate their efforts in the winter months. When most fair-weather paddlers are safe in their warm homes, they can have the river to themselves.

Last winter, they included third-year law student Jason Pahlke. "The paddling is just so much fun," says Pahlke, trying to explain the inexplicable appeal. "If it's not frozen, we're there." And the Huron River near Argo Pond is convenient on a cold winter's day, with its nearby parking lot. "You simply dress for the weather, and the Cascades are a good spot 'cause it's so close to your car," Pahlke explains—"and if you get cold you can head back to your car or do some jumping jacks."

Even with the dedication of the kayakers, a day on the Cascades can be limited by what nature throws your way—and what the body can put up with. Sometimes the rapids freeze below the first drop, so "you just have to hang out in the first run," says Pahlke. And then there are the mini-icebergs: "There are chunks of ice in the water as you're playing in it that break off from Argo Pond and come through the rapids," he says. In bartender-speak, it's a Cascades on the Rocks.

Pahlke graduated last spring and now lives in Tacoma. But Huckleberry Febbo, thirty, a U-M mechanical engineering PhD student, will once again be paddling the river, in winter, bare-chested. "I guess you just gotta do the best with what you've got," he says. "It can't always be perfect weather. I just never minded cold water that much, even from when I was a little kid—I jumped in the Atlantic Ocean for the Polar Bear Club in Massachusetts when it was freezing outside."

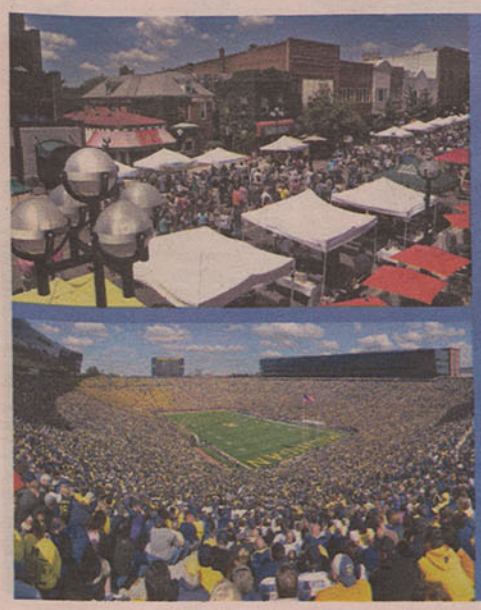
Hitting the water is a thrilling challenge for Febbo. "For me it's almost like an obligation: Who wouldn't prefer an eighty-degree water temp? But it adds an element of danger."

Logan Hansen, twenty-two, was a Raw Strengther throughout his U-M premed studies. Now in med school at Northwestern, he says winter visitors to the Cascades, seeing the cold-weather kayakers, often ask "Do you need help?"—then add, as they watch the boaters plunge into the chilly waters, "What were you thinking?"

The kayakers seem not only to relish the extreme challenge of dipping about the water when most don't even want to set foot outside but also to draw strength and encouragement from their fellow paddlers. "It's a lot of fun," says Pahlke. "You get some paddlers out there and some hot coffee in a thermos. They so much love it that they can't wait until it's nice: they just have to get out there."

Once, "it was thirty-one degrees, and we actually had to break through ice to get out to open water," Hansen recalls. "You have to flip over"—that is, deliberately submerge yourself in the icy water—to keep the boats' nylon fabric skirts from freezing and cracking. "The guys with the beards and mustaches get the gnarly icicles on them that we like to take pictures of."

As their heads dip into the water, there's always the potential for the winter kayakers to suffer from a condition well known to those who eat ice cream too fast: "There's some people that refuse to go out when you roll over and get brain freeze," Hansen admits. "But it's almost always worth it for the stories, if not for the kayaking alone." ■



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JANUARY: GOT CHEESE?

CHEF'S TABLE
by Harriet Seaver



There's an art to cooking with cheese. A simpler art than you might think, but one we find difficult to adhere to. More is not better. Everything—including cheese—in moderation. Cheese, unless it's the main ingredient (think cheese enchiladas) shouldn't smother your dish, it should compliment and enhance it. A light touch on top of a wet burrito or taco salad. Of course if you're looking for that creamy, cheesy overload all you need is an order of our Queso. Just don't blame us when you find yourself craving it again and again, and—yeah we do too.

BAKER'S CORNER
By Jessica Gerstenberger

I have been granted permission to give away one secret ingredient in our amazing cornbread recipe, Asiago cheese. We use a slightly aged Asiago for its crumbly texture and nutty flavor. Also, it helps balance the sweetness from the corn. The result is something that can be enjoyed as an appetizer, main dish, and dessert. Don't forget you can order a whole cornbread with 24 hours' notice.



HOT HEADS
by Tim Seaver

Trying to cut down on sodium? Eating more vegetables? Hot sauce is a great way to add flavor to just about anything without busting your New Year's diet. One of my long time favorites is Iguana Cayenne Pepper Sauce. On the milder side, this sauce is very approachable. Classic pepper flavor blended with carrots and cider vinegar. If you need more heat there are plenty of options in the same line, but I don't always need to burn my face off. Sometimes just a little warmth as an addition to the flavor rather than overpowering it is enough for me. Trust me, this sauce goes with everything.



FATHER TEQUILA
by Jeremy Seaver

New Year's Eve is often a night of overindulgence, followed by resolutions to do better in the coming year. I hope none of you overdid it too much, and I applaud any efforts to become a happier, healthier you. For me, moderation is the key. In 2018, one good tequila to enjoy slowly and in small measure is Suerte Reposado. Moderately-priced and delicious, this is a relatively new addition to my liquor cabinet. Well balanced, easy to drink, with a floral nose and hints of honey on the finish, it has rapidly become one of my favorites. I prefer mine on the rocks. Enjoy and have a great start to the new year!



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Detroit Street Filling Station

Changing directions



KATHERINE DOWNIE

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, I took my home-for-the-holidays son and his vegetarian girlfriend to Sunday brunch at Detroit Street Filling Station. Located in the old Argiero's, it opened in August as an upscale outgrowth of the successful vegan Lunch Room, still in operation a block away in Kerrytown. Because my last meal out with "the kids" had been a culinary and visual stunner at a vegetarian Japanese restaurant in San Francisco's Mission District, I was hoping this brunch would represent Ann Arbor well. We were not disappointed.

Sunlight flooded the big-windowed multi-room space, cheekily decorated with bright colors, painted spoons, and tangled hose sculptures on the walls. Retro cool jazz and linen napkins set a refined mood. My guests both liked their creative entrées, chosen from a menu of world cuisine made vegan. In Eleanor's innovative "carrot lox" bagel platter, barely softened ribbons from the thick part of carrots had been marinated to taste slightly briny, then seated on a bagel with giant capers, red onion, and a creamy cashew "cheese" spread. Max had the "Benedict" special: two big and crispy fritters made from black-eyed peas, stacked with arugula and lemony mock-hollandaise sauce squiggles on an English muffin. On a lark, I ordered the "Irish Breakfast" of grilled tomato and mushrooms, baked beans, tofu scramble, and chewy seitan sausage. It succeeded as a less greasy version of those omnipresent British morning meals. I was glad we ordered a delicious pecan sticky bun as well, and I didn't miss dairy until settling for alt-cream with my Mighty Good coffee.

After taking a peek at the dinner menu, I looked forward to coming back to try the Cauliflower Truffle Mac and the Marinated Asian Vegetable Salad, which was what I had at that memorable San Francisco meal. But this was not to be …

The Sunday after Thanksgiving, a press release popped up in the Observer's email. The subject line: "Detroit Street Filling Station Announces a New Direction: Casual Dining and Creating Community."

The release explained that the restaurant forthwith would have a simplified fast-casual menu, the same at lunch and dinner. White linen was out, whereas "music, art, poetry, bingo, book clubs, and meetups are all part of the new idea." Intriguingly—and unexpectedly, for a restaurant press release—it added that "at the heart of the change is a commitment to our project: The Youth Justice Fund … the mission of which is to assist returning citizens, sentenced as youth to a term of imprisonment, with services and resources necessary to ensure human dignity and full participation in their communities." In addition to hiring recently released young adults, they'd help support them by donating to their nonprofit 10 percent of Tuesday evening sales and 10 percent of *all* sales, on any day, of BBQ Tofu Sliders.

The tofu sliders are a Lunch Room classic, dating back to the business's origins seven years ago as a food cart in Mark's Carts. It read as if a talisman was being brought back to anchor the Filling Station's streamlined menu and expanded mission.

And it wasn't just the white linen and truffle bakes that were gone. Also out, according to social media posts on the Filling Station Facebook page, were eight cooks, servers, and managers. The same day the press release went out, one of them wrote (in part): "I've done nothing but uptalk this place and work hard to be a part of the vision it was creating, and yesterday a huge chunk of the staff was told that we no longer had jobs with nothing but a brief email."

Within days, co-owners Phillis Engelbert and Joel Panozzo posted a response, saying (in part): "While Detroit Street Filling Station had some great nights and guests enjoyed incredible food and service, the sales were not enough to pay the bills … we had to make a decision: pull the plug and try something new, or face the loss of our entire business and the livelihoods of our other 70 employees."

On the first Saturday evening in December, I enlisted a small group of friends to try the new menu. The response to most everything was positive: the "loaded nacho" appetizer of tater tots drenched in cashew "queso" sauce and topped with jackfruit "carnitas," for example, and a lovely winter salad of greens, citrus wedges, walnuts, spiced roasted chickpeas, and the perfect light citrus and cumin vinaigrette to hold it all together. The BBQ tofu was fine, whether served in a platter with greens and rice or as the heralded sliders with add-on avocado slices, recommended by our server, providing welcome condiment creaminess. Cuban and pizza panini sandwiches were filling, and a peppery pho-style tofu ramen bowl should be a warming winter favorite. We weren't out for cocktails but saw plenty of bright fruit-colored ones making their way to other tables.

Engelbert was pouring water refills and looking rather weary when she came to our table. We were just finishing our meals, and she urged us to try the desserts, made in the Lunch Room's own bakery in Huron Towers. We found both the Tres Leches cake with rum, and an unusual sesame-seed jammy thumbprint cookie with thin streaks of chocolate, to be standouts.

Her face lit up when she talked about the Youth Justice Fund and the possibilities of the Filling Station as an offline social center—unlike the Lunch Room, she explained, the larger new space can take reservations and accommodate large groups. She's hoping to see those large groups show up regularly for a "Wired Wednesdays" bluegrass jam starting in January. Their house band, Wire in the Wood, will host and bring in guest musicians.

"Joel and I began as community organizers," she said. (She's worked on countless environmental, peace, and social justice campaigns, while Panozzo's been involved in environmental and LGBT issues and is a fervent bicycling activist.) "This feels like going back to what we are about."

I left thinking about what hard work it is running restaurants, and how there are multiple chapters and viewpoints in most stories. Vegan fine dining turned out to be a hard sell, even in Ann Arbor. But plant-based cuisine always seems future focused, and supporting social justice is timeless.

—M.B. Lewis

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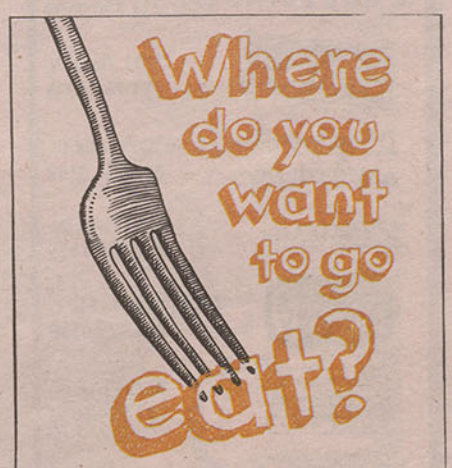
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The Zingerman's Times

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Bread of the Month
rustic italian round — Zingerman's Bakehouse

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Roaster's Pick Coffee
kenya peaberry — Zingerman's Coffee Company

This coffee comes from the Iriga Cooperative based in Kenya's Tharaka-Nithi county. This lot has everything to love about Kenyan coffees: complexity, crispness, rich sweetness, and a fruit-forward profile distinctive of the region.

Cheese of the Month
artisan cream cheese — Zingerman's Creamery

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zingerman's roadhouse's 13th annual african american foodways dinner

Zinger-land is abuzz with excitement for Zingerman's Roadhouse 13th Annual African American Foodways dinner on January 30th. Chef Bob Bennett will be preparing a menu inspired by the late, and much loved, African American chef and award-winning author Edna Lewis. Special guests will include André Mack, former Head Sommelier of Thomas Keller's Per Se restaurant in New York, Best Young Sommelier in America Award Winner, and winemaker with his winery in Oregon, Maison Noir Wines. And, Stephen Satterfield, founder of the International Society of Africans in Wine, co-founder of Nopalize, a website designed to connect people with the origins of their food, and founder of *Whetstone Magazine*, a digital publication led by a team of women and people of color, that connects readers with the diversity and ancestry of food, will also be our guest.

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ways to keep warm in zinger-land!

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Gumbo Mondays at Zingerman's Roadhouse
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Ari writes: "Compared to rolled or steel cut oats, porridge made from Macroom's toasted and stone-ground oaten meal is almost another product altogether. Eating it for the first time is like taking a stroll in Paris, France when all you've known is Paris, Texas." Available every morning at Zingerman's Deli from 7–11 am!

ari's top 5!

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KATHERINE DOWNIE

Persian Immersion

At Caspian Mediterranean Grill

You can learn a lot about food from various cultures in the Ann Arbor-Ypsi-Detroit continuum. For example, I think Caspian Mediterranean Grill is the first eatery I've ever visited anywhere that specializes in Persian food. On the restaurant's website, owner Shafyi Broumand explains that he wanted to share the food he remembered from his father's restaurant on the shore of the Caspian Sea.

Since opening last spring in a small strip mall opposite the Marriott Eagle Crest in Ypsilanti Township, Caspian Mediterranean Grill has developed a following. It wasn't just people of Iranian background who suggested that it was worth checking out. I found the attractive, nautical-blue single-room dining area relatively busy at mealtimes, with families, hungry construction workers, and other folks.

Being new to this cuisine, I asked the friendly counter person to point out their most popular traditional Persian dishes. She unhesitatingly referred me to two: *zereshk polo* and *fesenjoon.*

"Polo" is Caspian's transliteration of one of the region's common culinary denominators—the rice cooked with broth and veggies whose wanderings Wikipedia traces from the Sanskrit *pulaka* to the Greek *pilafi.* Here it's a skewer of nicely grilled big chunks of white meat chicken and onion atop a bed of basmati rice generously dotted with bright-red little barberries that had been caramelized for sweetness. A layer of bright-yellow saffron rice under the berries gave the dish a festive look completely appropriate to its wonderful flavor combination.

I was less enthusiastic about the fesenjoon, a chicken stew that combines ground walnuts with jammy pomegranate syrup in a thick brown sauce tasting like stewed raisins or dates. I'm told it has great nostalgic appeal among those who grew up with it, but its cloying tones kept this newcomer from wanting more than a few bites.

Service was a bit slow, so I got to watch some interesting and almost always generously proportioned entrées delivered to other customers. Most eye-catching was a heaping pile of rice with a *Flintstones*-caliber bone sticking straight up from the top. It was boiled lamb shank (*baghali polo*), served with lima beans and dill. I was perfectly satisfied with our own third entrée, a charbroiled filet mignon with Caspian's signature grilled tomato, its own big bed of basmati rice, and a yummy side of fresh and lemony English cucumber and tomato salad *shirazi*.

The basic *fattoush* and tabbouleh salads were fine and fresh, if not outstanding in any particular way. Caspian's smoky-flavored baba ghanoush, however, was fantastic, full-textured enough that you get a few eggplant seeds. For a whipped-smooth spread, also try Caspian's delicious and freshly lemony hummus or homemade yogurt with savory herbs.

For lunch, Caspian advertises $5.99 deals, either a hamburger or a chicken shawarma sandwich with fries. I tried the shawarma on another day, again generously apportioned with thin strips of grilled chicken and a pickle wrapped in pita. It went great with one of Caspian's $4.99 made-to-order juices of ginger, lime, and apple (the core, seeds and all, are pulverized in an industrial-grade juicer).

Caspian's huge menu included many vegetarian options, but perhaps ironically for a place named after two large bodies of water, no fish. The choices seemed evenly divided between intriguing unfamiliar foods and slight twists on relatively standard Middle Eastern fare that you'd find at restaurants with Lebanese, Syrian, Palestinian, Israeli, and Turkish proprietors. Diverging geopolitical climates and history don't necessarily mean sustenance that's completely worlds apart.

—M.B. Lewis

Caspian Mediterranean Grill
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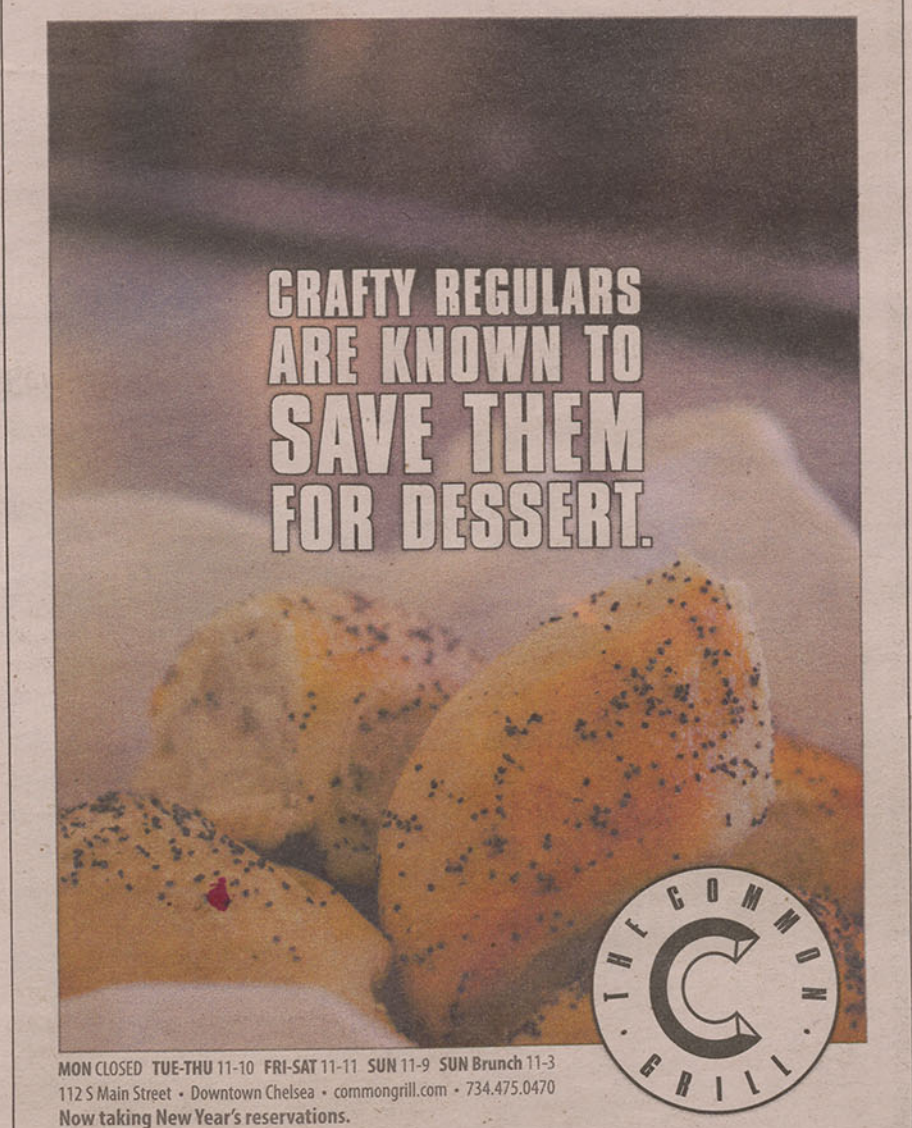
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Marketplace Changes

Fermented Honey at Courthouse Square

An uncommon drink in an out-of-the-way spot

Though convenient to both downtown and Kerrytown, the retail space in Courthouse Square, the senior-citizen and low-income high-rise at Huron and S. Fourth Ave., has never flourished. Isolated between a parking structure and Huron's four-lane business route, it last saw significant investment in the building's final days as a hotel in the 1980s. The restaurant and bar there folded along with the hotel in 1989. Since then, the only long-term tenant has been the Performance Network Theatre, which itself folded in 2015.

Now, after a Rip Van Winkle–like generational slumber, the space is being revived as a watering hole. Like Washington St. neighbors Arbor Brewing, Blue Tractor, and Mash, it will be an artisanal, brewed-here place. Unlike them, **Bløm Meadworks** will specialize in mead, an ancient fermented drink made from honey.

Pronounced "Bloom," the brewery is the work of husband-and-wife team Matthew Ritchey and Lauren Bloom. The ø in the name is a nod to mead's association with Scandinavia in popular culture—as their website says, if the word "automatically conjures a drinking hall filled with Vikings for you, think of ours as its friendly, approachable descendants, without the pillage and plunder."

The couple grew up in Fenton, dated in high school, went their separate ways for college, and then reunited in Chicago. There Ritchey co-founded the Begyle Brewing Co. Begyle flourished—you can buy its beers locally, and Ritchey is still an owner—but since he developed a gluten allergy, he can no longer drink its products.

They settled on mead as a way for Ritchey to brew a product he could drink, and for Bloom to turn her passion for local food into a living. They are working with several beekeepers around the state to supply the pound and a half of honey that goes into each gallon of mead.



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Lauren Bloom and Matthew Ritchey settled on mead as a way for Bloom to turn her passion for local food into a living, and for Ritchey, who has a gluten allergy, to create a craft brew he could drink.

They'll also be making hard cider from raw pressed apple juice that their supplier freezes to preserve the flavor and make it available all year round. Bløm also has a small press for specialty ingredients like rhubarb—"because we are brewing small batches, we can afford to experiment," Bloom says.

The couple say their craft meads will be drier and crisper with a lower alcoholic content than commercial versions, around 6 percent versus up to 20 percent. Bloom says the lower alcohol content will let them sell a 13.5-ounce glass of mead or cider for about the same price as a craft beer.

"Generally, the higher the alcohol content, the higher the price," she says. "We want our product to be accessible and affordable."

Starting a new business with an unfamiliar product has its challenges. "We really need to educate the community about what we're doing," Ritchey says.

One way to reach out is through tastings at local farmer's markets that Bløm is planning for the spring. They'll also be selling a CSA-like "CSM"—"community supported mead"—membership, whose subscribers can enjoy one to two growlers a month of mead or cider. But Bløm's taproom will open to everyone.

"We'll have a traditional bar, some two-top tables, and community tables in the back," Bloom says. The wall behind the community tables will do double duty as a projection screen, "if people want to come in and screen a film."

Bløm's already been contacted by a book group about using the community tables for monthly meetings and by Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers, a club dedicated to beekeeping advocacy and support, about crafting a special brew with their honey.

"We welcome that," Bloom said, "We really want to be a part of the community."

Customers are also welcome to bring their own food since Bløm will offer a very limited menu. "We've got our hands full getting the brewing started," Ritchey says. "There's so much great food downtown," Bloom adds. "We want to support that."

In December, their opening date was still up in the air. "We were supposed to take possession in April," Bloom says, but didn't get in till mid-November. Once everything is in place, it will take about two weeks to brew up the first batches of mead for curious drinkers.

Bløm Meadworks, 100 S. Fourth Ave. drinkblom.com. Opening early 2018.

Steak on the Rocks

Black Rock transforms a onetime Chi-Chi's.

The latest in the growing **Black Rock Bar & Grill** steakhouse chain opened in early December at State and Airport Blvd.

The first Black Rock started in Hartland in 2010, and the company has since opened nine more locations in Florida and Michigan. The name advertises what business analysts would call its point of difference: Black Rock delivers steaks and certain kinds of seafood to your table raw, along with a volcanic rock heated to 755 degrees and salted. The server offers instructions, then you cook it yourself.

We watched one woman cook her steak partially, then sear each bite individually by pressing them against the stone. Her companion opted to keep his intact, flipping it once before digging in.

Prices start at $15.99 for a six-ounce sirloin. Kitchen-made fare includes burgers, sandwiches, and hot dogs. For dessert, there's another eye-catching option: the "Sizzling Black Rock Volcano," comprised of a brownie topped by a tower of four scoops of ice cream and a lit sparkler on top.

Black Rock is at the site of the former Passport Restaurant, but there's no trace of Passport's eye-popping blue paint, or the slanted-stucco architecture that marked it as a one-time Chi-Chi's. Now the building has tall (and entirely rectangular) beige walls with gray stone accents and glass torches for an ultramodern feel. The inside also received a full makeover. "I think we left up two sets of walls," says general manager Scott Kaufman. "It probably would have been easier to knock it down,"

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Marketplace

Changes



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"I think we left two sets of walls," says manager Scott Kaufman (right). "It probably would have been easier to knock it down, adds franchisee Caleb Ward.

adds franchisee Caleb Ward, who also owns the Black Rock in Novi.

The interior is similarly redone: booth seating and multiple private rooms for events or business meetings surround a large central bar. Everything plays on the "Black Rock" theme, with lots of sleek-looking blacks and grays, black stone tabletops, and a glass fireplace.

The restaurant's neutral colors and large private rooms seem especially tailored to businesspeople, and Kaufman and Ward are developing a new lunch menu tailored for local workers who want to get in and out during their lunch breaks. The cook-your-own model also lends itself to speed.

The building had been unoccupied for five years when Black Rock took over last summer. Though the building underwent extreme changes, ultimately one of the most noticeable differences is the now-full parking lot.

Under the Chime

Collected Collage opens in Kerrytown.

The bright airy space has vintage purses, handmade sweaters—and carillon pipes along the ceiling. "Those are the chimes," laughs owner Michele Longo, referring to the Kerrytown Chime. "I always know what time it is!" And based on brisk sales in the weeks since opening in mid-November, the time for the **Collected Collage** seems to be right.

Longo studied retail fashion in college, where she began buying and selling vintage clothing. Originally she set up shop at various craft markets until she landed at the Rust Belt in Ferndale, an indoor weekend market in a onetime department store on Woodward. After spending two years commuting from Ypsilanti to the weekend-only marketplace, Longo decided to look for space locally. "I've always loved this area of Ann Arbor," she says of Kerrytown.



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

A road trip through the U.P. sold Michele Longo on Michigan. Now she's selling vintage clothing and crafts upstairs at Kerrytown.

The new shop carries a wide variety of vintage clothing, including handmade shawls and scarves. The large collection of antique jewelry ranges from simple, elegant beaded necklaces to mosaic brooches to art deco rings. She's also incorporating handmade new work "from the people I've admired for so long," including Erin Morin, a macramé artist from Ypsi who uses found objects such as driftwood and deer antlers to make wall hangings and plant hangers, and Lindsey Leyland, owner of Ann Arbor's The Getup Vintage, who makes clothing out of vintage fabric and patterns.

Originally from upstate New York, Longo "fell in love with Michigan when I did a road trip through the Upper Peninsula" in 2013. "This is such a great state with so many different landscapes … I looked around and said, 'I want to live here.' "

She's happy with her Kerrytown location, too. "There is so much going on and I love being a part of this whole collective."

The Collected Collage, Kerrytown Market & Shops, 773–3166. Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed. & Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.–5 p.m. etsy.com/shop/theCollectedCollage

Briefly noted

Ulrich's Bookstore has officially moved into its new building at the corner of South University and Church. Manager Tracy Buse says the store will offer the same selection of textbooks, school supplies, and spirit merchandise that it did at its old location a block west at South University and East University.

Ulrich's left its home of over eighty years last spring, when developer Ron Hughes began work on a ten-story student housing project. The reopening in the former Launch Board Shop had originally been scheduled for last spring. Tom Kline, VP of corporate communications at Ulrich's parent company Follett, emphasizes that the delays had nothing to do with

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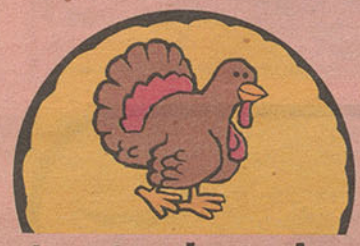
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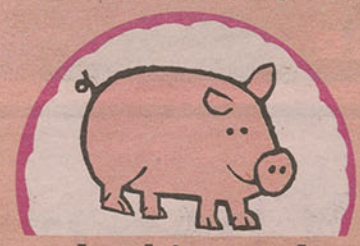
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Marketplace Changes

Ulrich's or Follett: "the property manager was in charge of transition project and construction, so unfortunately, the ability to move into the space when we would have liked was out of our hands."

Kline and Buse both have high hopes for the new location. While the corner building was originally supposed to be a temporary spot until the store could return to its 1935 address, neither committed to a timeline to move back. "We're in it for the term of the lease," says Kline.

Buse says the store setup is more streamlined for students now: "Our old store used to have a whole textbook area as well as a [separate] spirit shop. Now it's all together … You can enter in the first door and you have all your spirit wear and all your school supplies." Alternatively, students can use a second neighboring entrance to head directly downstairs for textbooks.

At a time when many local college bookstores are struggling with competition from online giants like Amazon, Kline and Buse say they have a three-part recipe for success. "Spirit, affordability, and the convenience are really the pieces that make the store unique," says Kline. At a grand reopening in mid-December during U-M's study days, they gave out coupons for apparel, gifts, and a free slice of pizza from new South U neighbor the Brown Jug.

Ulrich's Bookstore, 1200 S. University, 662–3201. Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Sat. 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Closed Sun. bkstr.com/ulrichsstore

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"This store is the opposite of what you think of when you think of a cable company store," promises Comcast spokesperson Rob Ponto. The store he refers to is the recently opened 4,000-square-foot **Xfinity Store by Comcast** in the Oak Valley Centre.

The new space replaces Comcast's service center on South Industrial and adds retail sales. "Customers deserve the best," says Ponto, "and we are on a mission to simplify their experience and save them time." They also wanted to improve the aesthetics, so it was out with the paneling and security glass and in with high tech displays and customer convenience. "Instead of waiting in line like before, customers can come in and check into our queuing system. They can watch TV, peruse our devices, check out our new apps … and then we will call them when they come up in the queue."

Customers will have plenty to occupy themselves with as the store carries headphones, speakers, mobile phone cases and accessories as well as the latest Apple, Samsung, and LG phones. Visitors can also demo products and services, pay their bills, and pick up and return equipment.

Xfinity Store by Comcast, 2915 Oak Valley Dr., (800) 934–6489. Mon.–Sat. 9 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

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A bright dessert case lines the checkout stand at **Ann Arbor Fish & Chicken** on Washtenaw near Golfside—diners can choose from caramel cake, pudding, pie and cheesecake. But the focus here is on deep-fried seafood and chicken, with options ranging from shrimp, catfish, and tilapia to chicken tenders, wings, and gizzards. Side dishes run from spaghetti to potato salad to hush puppies and abundant offerings of fried vegetables. Larger parties (and larger appetites) can feast on shrimp by the pound, 100 wingdings, or 200 chicken wings.

The manager on duty, who gave his name only as Brian, says that the restaurant is locally owned and not part of a larger chain. "It is the family's first restaurant," he says. "And we are hoping to do our best to build the reputation for good quality" food.

Brian says most of the business has been carryout, but there are booths for those who like to dine in. Acknowledging the plethora of choices on Washtenaw, he says that they hope to bring in customers with daily specials and by providing them with the best choices and the tastiest food.

Ann Arbor Fish & Chicken, 4872 Washtenaw, 544–1833. Open daily from 10:30 a.m.–midnight.

❧❧❧

On September 15, the **Sweetwaters** café in Plymouth Green Crossings posted notices online and on-site that it was closing temporarily due to equipment maintenance and road construction. Three months later, regulars were still wondering when and if it would reopen.

In late November, one fan emailed the Observer asking for news. "This sudden closure pulled the rug out from a lot of regulars," he wrote, "This was a very popular café—packed with students on Sunday afternoon, a women's knitting group on Thursday nights, business folks having meetings, people doing job interviews, and regulars like me … doing research and writing."

The fan didn't want to be quoted by name. In fact, no one wanted to be quoted by name about the closure.

Sweetwaters offers franchises and does not own the closed location. However, the company does list all locations, both company and franchised-owned, on its website. The Plymouth Rd. café is no longer listed.

Its Facebook page is still active, however, and apparently is now under the parent company's control. A query there got this (unsigned) email response: "Hearing how much Sweetwater's Plymouth Rd. means to everyone is heartwarming! We are still working with the franchisee to see if we can get this store re-opened. If we have any new news—we will post on the Sweetwater's Plymouth Rd. Facebook page."

The name of the franchisee, too, remains a mystery. When MLive covered the café's opening in 2009, it wrote that the franchise was owned by a group of investors, without naming names.

A barista familiar with the closing says, "No one really knows what's going on."

Of course, he, too, spoke on the condition of anonymity.

While who owns the franchise, when it might reopen, and why it closed remain obscure, there are plenty of other Sweetwaters locations open for business in the Ann Arbor area. Not to mention several rival coffeehouses along Plymouth, including Espresso Royale, Starbucks, and Moonwinks in Dixboro.

The disappointed regular wrote he had transferred his business to Barnes & Noble's café on Washtenaw. He even ran into another displaced regular there. They both miss "their" café on Plymouth Rd.

Closings

An observant reader noticed the closed sign on **Manna International Food & Gifts** at the foot of Broadway. An early November post on Yelp indicated that the store was closing for good. At that time, most of the inventory was discounted up to 40 percent.

The Observer archives have notes about the store dating back to the early 1980s; in a Yelp comment dating to 2014, "Dug S." called it his favorite Korean market in Ann Arbor. Other Yelpers, however, thought that service grew less friendly after a sale around that time.

Kay Yourist, whose pottery studio is nearby, says the lease was up. The owners could not be reached for comment.

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After fifty years in Lamp Post Plaza, **Breneman Optical** will close its doors on December 30. Husband and wife Jay and Cindy Breneman say they're ready for retirement after forty years of running the business they inherited from Jay's father, Walter.

"We just wanted to do a little thank-you to all of our wonderful customers in Ann Arbor" says Cindy, who called to let us know about the closing. The couple ran the shop entirely by themselves as one of the last optical retailers in Ann Arbor without a medical professional's office attached. "We just fill prescriptions and make the glasses," says Cindy, "It's really a dying industry."

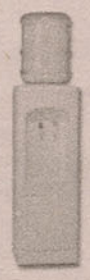
Cindy says they were lucky to have had a loyal customer base, but that online optical retailers like Warby Parker were having an effect on business from younger customers. By her account, though, even they may miss the brick-and-mortar presence. "They'll order online, but then they'll come in and say 'Can you fix this? It's so uncomfortable!'… We do," she adds. "We never turn anybody away for anything!"

They will be staying in the area, and Cindy says any of their customers who haven't had a chance to come in to the shop before it closes can still reach them regarding their accounts through the business's email and phone number (below).

Breneman Optical Inc., 971–7940, BrenemanOptical@comcast.net ■

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Music at Nightspots

by Katie Whitney

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

ABC Microbrewery

720 Norris St., Ypsilanti 480–2739

This casual brewpub features live music, Mon. 7–9 p.m. and occasional other nights. No cover, no dancing. January schedule TBA.

Ann Arbor Distilling Co.

220 Felch 882–2169

This boutique distillery features occasional live music in its Tiny Corner stage in the tasting room (or on the patio in summer if the weather is nice), 7–9 p.m. (except Sun., 5:30–7:30 p.m.). **Every Sun.: The Brennan Andes Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by Macpodz bassist Andes. **Jan. 5: Cedars.** Local jazz ensemble led by tenor saxophonist-composer Dan Bennett. **Jan. 6: Harrington Brown.** Local guitar duo of Michael Harrington and Appleseed Collective frontman Andrew Brown. **Jan. 12: Anthony Retka & Emily Rose.** Singer-songwriter duo of Tone & Niche frontman Retka and Rose of the Americana duo Escaping Pavement. **Jan. 13: Harrington Brown.** See above. **Jan. 19: Darrin James Band.** Blues-inflected folk-rock by this local singer-songwriter whose new CD, *Strange Storm,* is a collection of songs responding to the contemporary climate of constant violence, blatant greed, religious hypocrisy, and political chaos. **Jan. 20: Luke Winslow-King:** A Cadillac-bred Americana singer-songwriter and guitarist who currently lives in New Orleans, Winslow-King specializes in a style of prewar pop music steeped in blues and jazz, along with originals in the same vein. *PopMatters* critic John Paul calls his new Bloodshot Records CD, *Everlasting Arms,* "an album full of charming, deceptively complex arrangements and chord progressions that hearken back to a freer, looser time in American popular song." **Jan. 26: Dan Bennett.** See above. **Jan. 27: The George and Laura Duo.** See Mash.

The Ark

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Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional and roots music and contemporary songwriting. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun., unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and theark.org, and at the door. **Jan. 3: The Slocan Ramblers.** Highly regarded young Candian bluegrass quartet known for its blend of lightning fast, devilishly intricate ensemble playing and fiercely driving vocals racing ahead of the music. Its repertoire blends originals with vintage material from traditional songs like "Groundhog" and "Rambling Sailor" to Woody Guthrie's "Pastures of Plenty" and the Delmore Brothers' "Mississippi Shore." $15. **Jan. 4: Martin Sexton Trio.** *Rescheduled from Oct. 6.* Sexton is a widely acclaimed singer-songwriter from Boston known for bold, thoughtful original songs that blend elements of rock 'n' roll, blues, and folk balladry with the mannerisms of R&B and soul, and for dynamic vocals that range from falsetto crooning to muted trumpet sounds. "Martin Sexton is ripe with raw, expansive talent. His voice comes in a hundred impossible shades. His songs are sweet and spirited and soulful. His repertoire is like a cross-country tour of the American musical vernacular," says the *Boston Globe.* Opening act is **Animal Years,** a Brooklyn roots-rock Americana trio. $35. **Jan. 5: Thunderwüde.** Bluegrass and related roots music by the Chelsea trio of guitarists Jason Dennie and Tommy Reifel and multi-instrumentalist Wes Fritzemeier. Opening act is the **Chelsea House Orchestra,** a touring ensemble of some 2 dozen Chelsea High School students that plays traditional Scottish and Irish jigs and reels, along with other folk-inspired music and even some rock 'n' roll. $15. **Jan. 6: The Yellow Room Gang.** In-the-round performances by this group of 8 award-winning veteran Michigan songwriters who get together regularly to share their new work. Members are **David Barrett, Jim Bizer, Annie Capps, Kitty Donohoe, Jan Krist, Matt Watroba,** and **Michael Hough & David Tamulevich** of the local duo Mustard's Retreat. The Yellow Room Gang's eponymous compilation CD features new and older songs by each artist. $20. **Jan. 7: Abigail Stauffer.** Local singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant alto voice who's known for her piercing, emotionally direct pop-folk and pop-rock songs. She performs tonight with a trio. Opening act is **Olivia Millerschin,** a young ethereal-voiced Detroit pop-folk singer-songwriter whose music is known for its blend of clever lyrics with haunting melodies. She has released 2 CDs, including the recent *Look Both Ways.* $15. **Jan. 9: Gemini.** The popular acoustic duo of twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits has a repertoire that includes sing-alongs, folk songs from around the world, and upbeat originals about life's simple pleasures, all performed with a boisterous sense of fun on more than a dozen instruments. Gemini is joined by San's daughter, fiddler **Emily Slomovits,** to form **Gemily.** $15. **Jan.10: Ben Caplan.** Halifax singer-folk-rock songwriter with a soulful, penetrating voice and a knack for writing poetically charged, flamboyantly imagined, often darkly insinuating songs whose music draws freely on a variety of traditions, including East European and Jewish folk music. Opening act is **Harrow Fair,** the Toronto duo of Mira Mulholland and Andrew Penner. $15 (members, free). **Jan. 11: Corndaddy.** *See review, above.* Local alt-country band, tonight celebrating its 20th anniversary, led by singer-songwriters Kevin Brown and Jud Branam, whose music filters early 70s country-rock through the influences of bluegrass, power pop, and British Invasion bombast. **Jan. 12: Captain Ivory.** Ypsilanti rock 'n' roll quintet—now based in Nashville—whose influences range from Muddy Waters to Led Zeppelin to Radiohead and Jack White. Opening act is **Jennifer Westwood & the Handsome Devils.** Self-styled "hill country outlaw swamp music" by this Detroit band led by Westwood, a versatile Detroit Music Award–winning singer-songwriter who formerly fronted the retro outlaw honky-tonk band Waycross Georgia Farmboys. $15. **Jan. 13: Jill Jack.** Sultry-voiced Detroit folk-rock singer-songwriter whose music also draws freely on jazz and country flavors. Her 2005 CD *Moon and the Morning After* won a Detroit Music Award for Outstanding Folk Recording. She appears tonight with her band for her annual birthday show. Opening act is **Sydney Burnham,** a young bluesy, funky folk-rock singer-songwriter and guitarist from Brighton. $20. **Jan. 14: Christine Lavin.** A veteran New York City singer-songwriter who has been described as a mix of Bette Midler, Tom Lehrer, Steve Goodman, and Janis Ian, Lavin is known for the sharp wit and comically warped perspectives of songs like "Stop Sobbing … He's an Idiot" and "Tom Cruise Scares Me." She's also known for her bittersweet miniatures of lost romance, and she's a tastily tuneful composer, a superb guitarist, and a playfully unpredictable performer whose shows are always sprinkled with a healthy dose of between-songs humor and spiky commentary. Her new album, *Spaghettification,* includes such songs as "Neil Degrasse Tyson Introduces Planet X" and "College Fight Song for Sesquipedalians." $25. **Jan. 17: The Timbre of Cedar.** Versatile suburban Detroit indie rock quintet led by Marrissa Parham, a singer-songwriter noted for her strong vocals and soulful lyrics. They have a new album, *Restoring the Light.* Opening act is **Chris DuPont,** a local acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter known for his distinctive tenor, unconventional guitar work, and clever lyrics. $15. **Jan. 18: The Sweet Remains.** This trio of charismatic singer-songwriters Rich Price, Greg Naughton, and Brian Chartrand formed a band in 2008 when they met for a chance jam session in a Rhode Island hotel room. According to a *Boston Herald* review, "It's been a long time since three-part harmonies this lush were yoked to songs this melodically gorgeous." $20. **Jan. 19: The RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared at numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. $11 (members, $10). **Jan. 20: Davina & the Vagabonds.** Fronted by the powerful vocals of singer-songwriter Davina Sowers, who has been compared to everyone from Etta James and Janis Joplin to Billie Holiday and Betty Boop, this Minneapolis Americana quintet plays a brand of high-energy horn-based blues that incorporates New Orleans charm, Memphis soul swagger, tender gospel passages, and dark theatrical moments that evoke Kurt Weill. They have a new live album, *Nicollet and Tenth.* One of the big hits at the 2017 Ann Arbor Folk Festival. $20. **Jan. 21: Jared Deck & the Travelers.** Deck is a Young alt-country Americana singer-songwriter from Oklahoma with a working-class point of view whose influences range from Springsteen and John Mellencamp to Alejandro Escovedo and Tom Russell. His song "The American Dream" recently won first place in the annual Woody Guthrie Folk Festival Songwriting Competition. He performs tonight with his band. $15. **Jan. 23: Twisted Pine.** Boston-based 4-piece string band known for its energetic, artfully multilayered bluegrass-inflected, infectiously jazzy, slyly cerebral acoustic pop. FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Jan. 26 & 27: 41st Ann Arbor Folk Festival.** *See Events listing, p. 47.* **Jan. 30: Ruth B.** *See review, p. 65.* Acclaimed young singer-songwriter from Edmonton whose 2017 debut CD, *Safe Haven,* earned her a Juno for Breakthrough Artist of the Year. She sings her intimately personal piano-based pop R&B tunes in a rich, soulful voice that *CrypticRock* critic Jeannie Blue calls "familiar, welcoming, and embracing." Opening act is **Hailey Knox,** an 18-year-old singer-songwriter from NYC who recently released her debut EP, *A Little Awkward.* $15. 7:30 p.m. **Jan. 31: "An Open Book: An Evening with Justin Furstenfeld of Blue October."** Solo performance by the frontman of the Houston rock band whose music is known for its searchingly intimate explorations of his many personal battles. His current tour, a blend of spoken word and acoustic music, features works from *Open Book Winter Album,* his 2017 collection of songs he wrote under the moniker 5591. The album also includes some Blue October songs and new originals. His show at the Ark last year sold out. $32.

Avalon Café & Kitchen

120 E. Liberty 263–2966

Downtown café features live acoustic music, Fri. & Sat., 6–9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 5: Harrington Brown.** See Ann Arbor Distilling Co. **Jan. 6: Neal Anderson & Jon Hammonds.** Local jazz duo of trumpeter Anderson and bassist Hammonds. **Jan. 12: Nadim Azzam.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter. **Jan. 13 & 19:** TBA. **Jan. 20: Jacob Warren & Friends.** Local bassist Warren is joined by other musicians TBA. **Jan. 26:** TBA. **Jan. 27: Nadim Azzam.** See above.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington 214–9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. No music in January.

country rock

Corndaddy

Fresh directions

Corndaddy plays its twentieth anniversary show at the Ark on January 11. When they started, Americana music was hardly a category, and the group looked back to what used to be called country rock: to the serious-minded later Byrds and Gram Parsons more than to the Eagles. From the Byrds, especially, they took the idea of mixing country music with the sounds of rock's British Invasion. Over twenty years they've elaborated on this idea on several fronts and have amassed a body of songs that are unfailingly catchy and rewarding on multiple hearings. Although rooted in the past, their music doesn't traffic in nostalgia, and all their songs are originals.

Musically, Corndaddy expands on the Byrds' model in two directions. Kevin Brown's lead guitar is what you'll notice first: it's not innocent of what's happened in rock music since the Byrds' heyday, and there are shades of power pop, straight Midwestern rock and roll, Americana, and even the country-punk hybrid known as twangcore—another sound that Corndaddy was doing before it had a name. The band's harmonies also reflect the use of modes, chords of the third and sixth, and other developments in rock harmony that have come along since the three-chords-and-the-truth days. From the Byrds' "Turn, Turn, Turn" to Corndaddy's "Rainbow on a Girl" is a short journey in one way, a long one in another.



MARK BIALEK

Some songs reflect a single idea, sometimes with wry humor. "Elvis Bluegrass Boy" imagines a kinder fate for the King of Rock and Roll:

> If Elvis had been a bluegrass boy,
> Had Bill Monroe put him on the road,
> Showed him "Don't Let Your Deal Go Down,"
> It might have turned it all around.

Other songs pair a simple lyric hook—"Don't you go runnin' down my heart"—with a more ambiguous consequent—"I'm up here and I keep trying." The result is a sound that retains the basic rhythmic appeal of country and rock roots, while giving audiences enough to chew on to keep them coming back for two decades.

Several members of the band have contributed songs, and the mixture of song models, guitar styles, and lyric ideas yields a lot of possible combinations that Corndaddy has explored over the years. They've had jobs and families to tend, but they're one of those bands that you wish had time to reach beyond Michigan, because their music has been consistently fun and fresh. They tap into an underestimated vein of Ann Arbor country music that runs back to Bill Kirchen's days with Commander Cody and His Lost Planet Airmen. The Corndaddy 20th Anniversary Show will be a place to reflect on and absorb how that innovative music has survived and evolved.

—James M. Manheim

Babs' Underground

213 S. Ashley **997–0800**

This downtown lounge features live music Wed., 11 p.m.–2 a.m. DJ on Thurs., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Dave Menzo.** This local pop-rock singer-songwriter uses guitar, bass, synths, and other electronics to improvise instrumental tracks on the spot to sing with. His recent CD, *Shhh,* is a collection of cinematic soundscapes created entirely with acoustic, electric, and electronic instruments from the Ann Arbor District Library Music Tools collection.

Bel-Mark Lanes

3530 Jackson **864–6095**

The café inside this westside bowling alley features occasional live music. Karaoke, Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Jan. 28: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late 1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6–8 p.m.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996–8555**

This local club features live music most Wed.–Sat. and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at blindpigmusic.com/calendar. **Jan. 4: Dyelow.** This local hip-hop DJ, producer and drummer is joined by area hip-hop MCs **Alaska the Renegade** and **Drew Denton,** and DJs **Prophet Ecks** and **Cataclysmic**. Hosted by popular local soul-inflected hip-hop singer and rapper **Nickie P. Jan. 5: "[MRB]'s A2 Showcase."** With the Grand Rapids punk-rock trio **Antighost,** the Ypsilanti metal-inflected pop-punk quartet **Tequila Deer,** the Ypsilanti punk-rock trio **Liars and Thieves,** the Detroit indie rock trio **Den of Greece,** and the Ypsilanti progressive blues-rock quartet **Strange Flavors. Jan. 6: The Dirty News.** Detroit rock quintet. Opening acts are Hamtramck instrumental jazz quartet **Dr. Pizza,** the local funk-rock septet **Liquid Thickness,** and **Peach Lavender,** a Kalamazoo quartet that plays a brand of breezy semi-acoustic pop known as "trip-folk." **Jan. 9: Rhyta Musik.** Balkan dance party with this local 8-piece Balkan brass band whose music is sprinkled with New Orleans funk flavors. Preceded at 8 p.m. by dance lessons. 8:30 p.m.–midnight. **Jan. 11: Normal Park.** Ypsilanti punk quartet. Opening acts are the Birmingham indie rock quintet **Been Stellar,** the Detroit lo-fi indie rock band **Ness Lake,** and the local pop-folk singer-guitarist **Lilly Talmers. Jan. 12: Tyler Hilton and Kate Voegele.** Double bill. Hilton is an L.A.-based pop-rock singer-songwriter with an engagingly husky voice who's most widely known for his role as Elvis in the Johnny Cash biopic *Walk the Line,* and Voegele is a suburban Cleveland pop-rock singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: $17 (VIP, $67). **Jan. 18: Blackalicious.** Veteran Sacramento hip-hop duo of rapper Gift of Gab and DJ ChiefXcel. Advance tickets: $20 ($25 at the door). **Jan. 20: Adventures with Vultures.** The stage name of Plymouth folk-blues singer-songwriter Matt Sauter. Opening acts are the Detroit folk-rock quartet **Brother Elsey,** the area noise rock punk band **Great Expectations,** and the Ypsilanti jazz-rock trio **Honey Monsoon.** Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **Jan. 27: The Macpodz.** Immensely popular veteran local jam band that plays an invigorating mix of R&B, soul, rock, and hard jazz it calls "disco bebop." Opening act is **Luke Winslow-King** (see Ann Arbor Distilling Co.). Jan. **28: San Fermin.** Brooklyn-based 8-piece baroque pop ensemble led by the classically trained composer and multi-instrumentalist Ellis Ludwig-Leone and featuring former Ann Arborite Charlene Kay as lead vocalist. The band's music has been praised for its agile blend of compositional complexity, pop grandeur, and gritty rock energy. Opening act is **Mikaela Davis,** a trio led by Rochester (NY) folk-flavored pop-rock singer-songwriter and harpist Davis. Advance tickets: $15 ($18 at the door).

The Blue Nile

221 E. Washington **998–4746**

This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin and other friends TBA.

Bona Sera

200 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 340–6335

This Ypsilanti restaurant features occasional live music in its underground lounge, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, cover. **Jan. 20: Guilty Pleasures Burlesque.** Local burlesque and comedy troupe. Hosted by comedian James Pequignot. Followed by a dance party with DJ Selina Style. Age 21 & older. 8–11 p.m.

Café Verde

214 N. Fourth Ave. **994–9174**

This café in the People's Food Co-op features acoustic musicians and duos, Thurs. 6–8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 4: Aaron Phoenix Wright & Friends. Jan. 11: Monte Pride.** Lansing pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Jan. 18: Andrew Cutillo. Jan. 25: Aim High Flyers.** Aim High School (Farmington Hills) students perform pop songs, led by their teacher, local guitarist Matthew Landrum.

Canterbury House

721 E. Huron **665–0606**

This U-M Episcopal student center features biweekly jazz jams & occasional jazz ensembles. No cover, no dancing. January schedule TBA.

Chelsea Alehouse Brewery

420 N. Main, ste. 100

Chelsea **475–2337**

Note: The Alehouse is relocating to 115 S. Main sometime in early 2018. This brewpub features live music Sun. 2–4 p.m. & 6–8 p.m., Wed. 8–10 p.m., and occasional Fri & Sat. 8:30–11 p.m. $5 suggested donation, no dancing. All ages admitted. **1st & 3rd Sun.: Celtic Jam Session.** All musicians invited to join a biweekly jam session. 2–4 p.m. **Every 2nd Sun.: "Songwriters Circle."** All invited to drop in to play their work or just listen. Hosted by veteran singer-songwriter Annie Capps. 2–5 p.m. **Every Sun.: The Wes Fritzemeier Jazz Experience.** With the Chelsea ensemble of pianist Brian Brill, bassist Jed Fritzemeier, and drummer Wes Fritzemeier. 6–8 p.m. **Every 2nd Tues.: Open Mike.** All musicians and other performers invited. 8 p.m. **Every Wed.: Thunderwüde.** Bluegrass and related roots music by the Chelsea trio of guitarists Jason Dennie and Tommy Reifel and multi-instrumentalist Wes Fritzemeier. Remainder of January schedule TBA.

The Club Above

215 N. Main **686–4012**

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music Fri. & Sat., and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.–2 a.m. (doors at 9 p.m.). Also, **comedy open mike** Tues. 10 p.m.–midnight, and DJs occasional Wed. & Thurs. 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, cover. Age 21 & older admitted. **Jan. 5: Impartial Hearts.** Depressive emo-rock by this Howell quartet. Opening acts are the Saline post-emo math rock quartet **Bad Television,** the Flint punk band **Copneconic,** the alternative rock band **Michigan Left,** and the Detroit indie rock quartet **The Doozers. Jan. 6: Cig Butts.** Jangly blues-rock by this Ypsilanti quartet. Opening act is **Sasquatch & Bridge Band,** a Kalamazoo jazz fusion band led by saxophonist Jarad Seiner. **Jan. 12: Painted Shapes.** Detroit indie rock band. Opening acts are **Hail Alien** and **Off the Ledge. Jan. 19: Superkaine.** Old-school hip-hop MC. **Jan. 20: U-M Electronic Music Collective.** DJs spin techno & house dance music. **Jan. 26: "Apollo Booking Showcase."** With area indie rock and emo bands TBA. **Jan. 27: "Drew Denton Presents."** DJs play hip-hop and electronic dance music.

Common Cup

1511 Washtenaw **327–6914**

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment on occasional Fri., 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 5: Emily Whittum.** Original songs in a wide range of genres by this 19-year-old singer-songwriter from Ottawa Lake who is currently a student at Belmont University (Nashville).

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665–2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Thurs.–Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Jan. 4: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **Jan. 6: Randy Brock Group.** Detroit blues trio. **Jan. 11: George and Laura Duo.** See Mash. **Jan. 13: "Ashes to Ashes."** David Bowie tribute hosted by singer-songwriter Adam Labeaux, with performances by **The Back Eddies, Brooke Ratcliff, Lazerface, Daryl Bean, The Band of Rasmus, The TJ Zindle Trio, Fangs & Twang, Paul's Big Radio, Michael Lipson, Gannon Alexander, Rich Delcamp, Whiskey Charmers,** and **Crossed Lines. Jan. 18: Open Mike.** All performers invited; sign-up begins at 8 p.m. Hosted by singer-songwriter Adam Labeaux. **Jan. 20: Chirp.** Local jazz-inflected progressive funk-rock quartet. **Jan. 25: Dickie D.** Solo performance by local banjoist Rick Delcamp, a member of the popular local roots music sextet Dragon Wagon. **Jan. 27: Me & Joe Smith.** Detroit funkabilly duo.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665–9468**

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 5: Bobby Pennock.** Plymouth folk-rock singer-songwriter whose style draws its influences from Paul Simon and Harry Chapin, with a helping of the Beatles thrown in for zest. **Jan. 6: John Finan & Sharon Tse.** Singer-songwriter duo. Finan is a Canton singer-songwriter who writes country-tinged folk-pop, and Tse is a young singer-songwriter whose repertoire ranges from confessional folk-pop to jazz-inflected songs. **Jan. 12: Bob Skon Trio.** Folk-rock covers and originals by this trio led by Skon, a local singer-songwriter known for his wry songs about love and loss. **Jan. 13: Bob Young.** Soulful folk-rock by this Detroit-area singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. **Jan. 19: Stuart Benbow.** Acoustic pop-folk originals and covers by this veteran local singer-songwriter and guitarist who grew up in Ontario. **Jan. 20: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **Jan. 26: The Nerk Twins.** Beatles covers by the Ferndale duo of Mike Wilhelm and Greg Sumner. **Jan. 27: Judy Banker.** Veteran singer-songwriter and guitarist who recently released the CD, *Devils Never Cry.* With fiddler Greta Mae Bernard, bassist David Roof, and dobro player Tony Pace. Banker is joined tonight by **Scott Fab,** a veteran Ferndale folk-rock singer-songwriter with an enchantingly expressive vocal style, and **Ed Dupas,** a local country-folk Americana singer-songwriter whose influences range from Springsteen to Steve Earle.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti 657–2337

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music. Cover (usually a donation), dancing.

The Earle

121 W. Washington **994–0211**

Restaurant with live jazz Tues.–Thurs. 7–9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.–Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo jazz guitarist. Solo jazz pianists TBA occasionally substitute. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble, named after the late jazz pianist and Earle cofounder Burgess, featuring drummer Robert Warren and a rotating roster of bassists and pianists.

The Elks Lodge

220 Sunset **761–7172**

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Fri. & Sat. 6–10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Jan. 18: Hip-Hop Open Mike.** All hip-hop artists invited.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. **769–9800**

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. (except holiday weekends), 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. **Jan. 1: The Switchbacks.** Local hard-rocking country and blues quintet fronted by vocalist Janet Benson. **Jan. 13: Flying Latini Brothers.** Reunion of this veteran local band fronted by singer-songwriter John Latini that plays country-flavored rock, along with some Tom Waits songs and other offbeat covers. **Jan. 20: Downriver Dan.** Fiery blues-rock by this trio led by by Allen Park singer-songwriter and guitarist Dan Kalicki. **Jan. 27: Steve Nardella Rock 'n' Roll Trio.** Ann Arbor's most passionate and compelling roots-rocker performs fiercely cathartic, blues-drenched reworkings of rock 'n' roll and rockabilly classics and obscure gems, along with some authentic Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker blues.





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THE ROY A. RAPPAPORT LECTURES:

Articulating "Blackness"as a Universal Claim: Holocaust Heritage, European Enlightenment, and Noncitizen Futures

Presented by Associate Professor Damani J. Partridge



Jugentheaterbüro Berlin © 2014. This photograph was used to advertise the play "Schwarzkopf BRD" (Black hair Germany) in Berlin. Photographer: Riccardo Valsecchi.

JAN. 19, 2018 | 3PM "After Diaspora, Beyond Citizenship — Articulating 'Blackness' as a Universal Ciaim"

FEB. 23, 2018 | 3PM "Democratization as Exclusion?: Refugee Futures and Holocaust Heritage"

MAR. 9, 2018 | 3PM "Black" Power "Beyond Belonging": Noncitizen (Youth) Politics in (Post-)Migrant Berlin

APR. 6, 2018 | 3PM "Against Pity: Articulating a Noncitizen Politics"

Location: Rackham Graduate School, Assembly Hall, 4th Floor

Open to the public
No cost to attend

Damani J. Partridge is an associate professor of Anthropology and Afroamerican and African Studies.

LSA ANTHROPOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
More Info: lsa.umich.edu/anthro

Music at Nightspots

The Habitat Lounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665–3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs. 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m., along with jazz Sun. 8:30–10 p.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: EventJazz.** Jazz originals and standards by different piano-based trios and quartets each show, led by bassist Rob Crozier. **Every Mon.: Cetan Clawson.** Monroe psychedelic blues-rock trio. **Every Tues.: Dave Menzo.** See Babs'. **Every Wed.** (except Jan. 10 & 24)**: Wych Elm.** Local string sextet that plays a stylishly pungent, soul-infused mix of folk, rock, jazz, and old-time music. **Jan. 4: Cetan Clawson.** See above. **Jan. 5 & 6: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Jan. 10 & 11: Slice.** Veteran East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Jan. 12: Atomic Radio.** Detroit quartet that plays 70s–90s rock and pop favorites. **Jan. 13: Skyline & the Backstreet Horns.** Detroit septet plays everything from big-band swing to Motown to contemporary pop. **Jan. 18: Cetan Clawson.** See above. **Jan. 19: 50 Amp Fuse.** Popular Detroit 70s and 80s classic rock band. **Jan. 20: Chateau.** Veteran pop dance band. **Jan. 24 & 25: Slice.** See above. **Jan. 26 & 27: The Front Men.** Detroit vintage rock band.

The Last Word

301 W. Huron 585–5691

This downtown cocktail bar features live music, Thurs. 9:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: The Pherotones.** A wide range of jazz and jazz-up popular music, from the 1920s to the present, by this all-star local quartet. With trumpeter Ross Huff, pianist Giancarlo Aversa, bassist Brennan Andes, and drummer Wes Fritzemeier.

LIVE

102 S. First St. 623–1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour (late Aug.–early June), 6:30–9 p.m., and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 4: Andy Adamson Quintet.** Jazz originals by keyboardist Adamson in styles ranging from traditional to modern electric jazz, along with some free improvisation. With saxophonist Dan Bennett, acoustic and electric bassist Brennan Andes, trumpeter Ross Huff, and drummer John Taylor. The band has a new CD, *First Light*. **Jan. 5: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Yardbirds, the Byrds, and Dylan to the Foundations' 1968 hit "Build Me Up Buttercup" and priceless obscurities like Love's "Alone Again Or." 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 12: Ransom Jones.** Veteran local classic rock party band, formerly known as the Breakers, that plays 60s–80s covers. 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 19: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. 6:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 26: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist Tyler Stipe, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30–9 p.m.

Mash

211 E. Washington 222–4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight and Thurs.–Sat. & occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Weekend happy hour music, 6–9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Jan. 3: Adam Labeaux.** An eclectic mix of jazz, folk, soul, funk, and rock originals by this local singer-songwriter, a former Ragbirds guitarist. **Jan. 4: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** An intense fusion of funk, soul, and blues by this Detroit quintet fronted by vocalist Rain. **Jan. 5: Darwin Mamassian.** Brighton folk singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 5: Sonic Freeway.** Versatile Detroit-area 6-piece dance band whose repertoire includes Motown and classic and country-rock. **Jan. 6: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 6: Chris Canas Band.** Detroit blues band fronted by blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **Jan. 10: Reeds 'n' Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and guitarist David Roof. **Jan. 11: The Social Bandits.** Funkified reggae-rock quintet from Commerce Twp. **Jan. 12: Jason Dean.** Local singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 12: Rock Jones.** Detroit roots rock, classic country, and blues quintet. **Jan. 13: Matt Boylan.** Covers and originals by this local pop-folk singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 13: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **Jan. 17: William Boley.** A mix of pop, folk, and rock by this versatile Plymouth singer-guitarist. **Jan. 18: Kari Holmes Band.** Contemporary country-pop, along with classic country covers, by a band led by Nashville-based, Detroit-bred singer-songwriter Holmes. **Jan. 19: Mia Green.** Young Detroit-area pop-folk singer-songwriter. **Jan. 19: The Invasion.** British Invasion cover quartet from Redford led by singer-guitarist David Roof. **Jan. 20: Mike Vial.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 20: Detroit's Own Soul Purpose.** An eclectic mix of genres from funk and blues-rock to hard country by this Westland quintet fronted by vocalist Carol Holmes. **Jan. 24: David Roof.** Local blues-rock singer-guitarist. **Jan. 25: The Shelter Dogs.** See Live. **Jan. 26: Nadim Azzam.** Local pop-oriented hip-hop singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 26: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **Jan. 27: Rick Straub.** Acoustic covers of singer-songwriter pop-folk and folk-rock by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **Jan. 27: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **Jan. 31: The George and Laura Duo.** Funky soul and R&B by the duo of vocalist Laura Rain and her husband, guitarist George Friend.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty 994–5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing. Advance tickets (when available) are at necto.com/special-events.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty 662–9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun., Wed., & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Jan. 1: Chris Buhalis.** This local singer-songwriter performs his 21st annual tribute to Hank Williams and Townes Van Zandt to mark the anniversary of their deaths. He's accompanied by dobro player Dave Keeney. 5 p.m. until he's done. **Jan. 3: Nick Collins Trio.** Local jazz ensemble led by drummer Collins. **Jan. 7: Jeff Plankenhorn.** Blues, rock, and soul by this singer-songwriter and guitar virtuoso, a former Ann Arborite now based in Austin. **Jan. 10: Tristan Cappel Trio.** Local jazz ensemble led by saxophonist Cappel. **Jan. 14: Jay Stielstra Trio.** Folk-country originals by this veteran local singer-songwriter, a mainstay of the local folk scene since the early 70s who is most widely known as the author of *Tittabawassee Jane* and other Michigan-based folk musicals. He is accompanied by vocalist Judy Banker and bassist David Roof. **Jan. 17: Skogan Gypsy Trio.** Gypsy folk music by this ensemble led by Polish-bred violinist Kjartan Code, a WMU grad. **Jan. 21: Myron Grant & Friends.** Ensemble led by veteran local singer-guitarist Grant with a wide-ranging string band repertoire similar to that of Grant's popular early 80s country swing and bluegrass-based jazz band Footloose. With fiddler Paul Winder, singer-guitarist Morgan Humecky, and bassist Rob Nuhn. **Jan. 24: Adam Kahana Organ Quartet.** Local jazz quartet led by guitarist Kahana and featuring organist LeRoy Mickens. With guitarist Ian Blunden and drummer Louis Jones. **Jan. 28: Friends with the Weather.** New local ensemble fronted by the singer-songwriter trio of Seth Hendricks, Chris Good, and David Happ. **Jan. 31: Dave Sharp Worlds Quartet.** World music–based jazz by this ensemble led by local bassist Sharp.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard 662–8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music 1st & 4th Tues. and every Thurs. 7:30–9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: "Guitarist Network."** All guitarists invited for a weekly jam session and group lesson that concludes with a group performance. 7:30–9 p.m. **Jan. 2: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Jan. 23: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club

207 S. Main 214–0400

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8–11 p.m., Mon. 9 p.m.–midnight, & Tues. 6–8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences. **Every Mon.: Bickley/Kramer/Roe.** Mainstream jazz by the local trio of bassist Rob Bickley, drummer Jesse Kramer, and keyboardist Rick Roe. **Every Tues.: Chris Buhalis.** Popular local singer-songwriter who sings engaging, fresh-minded folk-country originals, often with an acerbic topical edge, in a rich, warm voice. His latest CD, *Big Car Town,* is a collection of songs exploring and celebrating his working-class heritage.

Rush Street

314 S. Main 913–0330

This martini lounge features Thurs.–Sat. DJs, along with occasional live music. Karaoke on Wed. Dancing, no cover. January schedule TBA.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University 214–6666

This campus-area restaurant features live music Sun. 6–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, dancing to DJs with swing music (Wed. 10 p.m.–midnight) and tango music (Fri. 10 p.m.–midnight). No cover, dancing. **Jan. 5: Amy Grace Johnson.** Young acoustic pop-folk singer-songwriter from East Tawas. **Jan. 6: 6 Blue Lines.** Jazz & blues originals by the duo of vocalist Ira McDonald, who plays guitar and piano, and harmonica player Fred Crandal. **Jan. 12 & 13: Paul Rhodes.** Acoustic jazz and classic rock by this local pianist. **Jan. 19: Tim Prosser.** A mix of folk and pop covers and originals by this local singer-mandolinist, who is joined by guest musicians TBA. **Jan. 20:** TBA. **Jan. 26: The Randaliers.** A diverse mix of familiar and lesser-known rock, blues, alt-country and R&B covers by this local trio of chanteuse Vicki Dischler and guitarists C. Russell and Phil Campbell. **Jan. 27: Paul Rhodes.** See above.

Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea

123 W. Washington 769–2331

This downtown coffee shop features live music 1st & 3rd Fri., 8:30–9:15 p.m. Followed 9:30–11 p.m. by an **open mike** for musicians. All songs must be family-friendly originals. No cover, no dancing. **Jan. 5: Adam Kahana.** Local jazz guitarist, a member of the Ann Arbor Guitar Trio. **Jan. 19: Mercury Salad Sandwich.** Local roots music quartet led by singer-songwriter Brooke Ratliff and guitarist Kurt Bonnell that describes its music as "acoustafunk with some bluegrass thrown in."

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti 482–5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. and occasional Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m.–midnight. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Jan. 13: Salmagundi.** Local horn-powered Memphis-style rock 'n' roll band. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m.

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium 663–1202

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Sun. 5–8 p.m., Mon. 7–10 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger.

January Events

FILMS

60 Film Screenings
John Hinchey & Katie Whitney

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

44 Nightspots
John Hinchey & Katie Whitney

Corndaddy
James M. Manheim

GALLERIES

58 Exhibit Openings
Megan Inbody



LISA GAVAN

Jared Hoffert, Ann Stoner, Adam Peterson, and Jimmy Dee Arnold perform in the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre production of *The Explorers Club* Jan. 11–14.

EVENTS REVIEWS

49 Moth StorySLAM
Judged by people, hosted by pros
Sally Mitani

63 Jane Hirshfield
Precision and mystery
Keith Taylor

65 Ruth B.
Bright and ascending
Sandor Slomovits

66 Janai Brugger
Poetic treasures and rarefied airs
arwulf arwulf

We want to know about your event!
Please send a press release.

- **By email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?
We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:
All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to AnnArborObserver.com).

★ ***Denotes a free event.***

annarborobserver.com:
An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **AnnArborObserver.com.** If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on annarborobserver.com.

arbormail:
Get a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at AnnArborObserver.com/arbormail_help.html.

Tickets for events highlighted in yellow are available at a2tix.com.

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

1 MONDAY (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

★**Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Mon.–Sun., Dec.–Mar.* The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *10 a.m. (Mon.–Fri.), meet at Bird Hills Park parking lot, 1900 Newport Rd., 10 a.m. (Sun.) & 1 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 545–0541 (for all except 1 p.m. rides), 994–5908 (1 p.m. rides).*

"Hands-On Holidays": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Dec. 26–Jan. 7.* Family-friendly hands-on activities and demonstrations. Also, live entertainment by **"Dan the Creature Man"** (Jan. 1 & 5, 1–4 p.m.) and **"The Music Lady"** (Jan. 2–4, 11 a.m.). *Noon–5 p.m. (Dec. 31 & Jan. 1), 10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Mon.–Sat.), & noon–4 p.m. (Sun., except Dec. 31), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 (members & infants, free) regular museum admission. 995–5439.*

★**"Ann Arbor Group Runs": Running Fit.** *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:15 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty (Mon.); 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 5700 Jackson (Wed.); 6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 3010 Washtenaw (Thurs.). Free. 769–5016 (Mon.), 929–9022 (Wed.), 548–6299 (Thurs.).*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Barry Aherne throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Come with a team (up to 6 people) or join one. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

2 TUESDAY

"The Little Scientist Club": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Every Tues. & Sat.* Crafts, science-themed stories, and hands-on activities for kids ages 3–6 (older siblings welcome), accompanied by a parent. *9:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 10:30 a.m. (Sat.), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★**Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood



JANUARY/HIGHLIGHTS

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY

AADL.ORG

JAN 9

ANN ARBOR AREA HIGH SCHOOL EXPO

TUESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Join us for an informational open house about options in the Ann Arbor community with representatives from local high schools on hand to answer your questions. **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM • GRADE 8-ADULT**

JAN 10

FILM: *RESILIENCE*

WEDNESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Researchers have recently discovered a dangerous biological syndrome caused by abuse and neglect during childhood. Trailblazers in pediatrics, education, and social welfare are using cutting-edge science and field-tested therapies to protect children from the insidious effects of toxic stress. *This 60-minute 2016 film is not rated.* **PITTSFIELD • GRADE 7-ADULT**

JAN 11

ELECTRIC VEHICLES | CITY OF ANN ARBOR 2018 SUSTAINABLE ANN ARBOR FORUM

THURSDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

A panel of electric vehicle (EV) experts discuss how EVs will become a growing part of Ann Arbor's transportation future. Meet local electric vehicle owners and check out their vehicles at a "ride and drive" preceding the forum from 5-7pm on Library Lane. *This event is in partnership with the City of Ann Arbor.* **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM**

JAN 13

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE

SATURDAY • 1:00-2:30 PM

A dance master and musicians provided by the Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance will lead participants through the basics of a traditional country dance. No experience necessary. Beginners should arrive at 1pm sharp for a demonstration. Wear comfortable clothes and smooth-soled shoes. *This event is part of a partnership with the University of Michigan Life and Times of Lizzy Bennet Exhibit.* **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM • GRADE 6-ADULT**

JAN 15

MLK DAY EVENT: RHYTHM LIFE COLLECTIVE FEATURING KEVIN JONES

MONDAY • 2:00-3:00 PM

Rhythm Life Collective is a global drumming collective presenting music of West African, Cuban, Caribbean, North African, Brazilian, and Arabic traditions. **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM • ALL AGES**

UMS MLK DAY EVENT: SPECULATIVE HISTORIES

MONDAY • 7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Jillian Walker will guide participants through imaginative exercises to ignite creative ways to weave a more complex and complete historical view of African-American and collective American life. *This event is a partnership with UMS and is in association with the No Safety Net theater series.* **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM**

MLK DAY EVENT: BEYOND THE HERO AND THE HOLIDAY

MONDAY • 7:00-8:00 PM

Adults and teens can honor and celebrate the meaning of Martin Luther King Jr. Day with nationally acclaimed storyteller La'Ron Williams. **WESTGATE • GRADE 6-ADULT**

JAN 20

APPLE SHOWCASE PRESENTED BY MACTECHNICS

SATURDAY • 2:00-3:30 PM • Join us to discuss the latest Apple devices, software and all things Mac. *This event is in partnership with MacTechnics, the Ann Arbor Apple Users Group.* **WESTGATE**

JAN 21

FRIENDS IN SONG AND STORY

SUNDAY • 2:00-2:45 PM

The father/daughter/uncle musical family of Gemily joins AADL's Laura Pershin Raynor for a musical storytelling program for the whole family. **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM PRESCHOOL-GRADE 3**

JAN 21

HOT FROM THE OVEN: *ZINGERMAN'S BAKEHOUSE* COOKBOOK!

SUNDAY • 3:00-5:00 PM

Kick off the New Year right with Amy Emberling and Frank Carollo, Managing Partners of Zingerman's Bakehouse, as they introduce their first-ever cookbook, which features all the recipes of the Bakehouse's most popular items. *Copies of the cookbook will be available for purchase. This event is in partnership with the Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.* **MALLETTS CREEK**

JAN 22

RE-IMAGINING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITIES: CENTERING INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES

MONDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

The indigenous peoples of North America are heirs to the shattering legacy of European colonization with a predictable consequence–an epidemic of mental health problems including substance abuse and suicide. This presentation will review mental health service delivery in an effort to re-imagine techniques that center indigenous perspectives. *This program is part of the "Exploring the Mind" series and is a partnership with The University of Michigan Department of Psychology.* **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM**

COOKING 101: HOW TO SHOP ON A BUDGET WITH KEEGAN RODGERS

MONDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Keegan C. Rodgers, Head Baker at the People's Food Co-Op, leads this workshop on how to shop well on a budget. *This event is in partnership with the People's Food Co-Op and is part of an ongoing food and budgeting series.* **MALLETTS CREEK • GRADE 6-ADULT**

JAN 23

#METOO: WHY TALKING ABOUT SEXUAL HARASSMENT MATTERS AND WHERE WE GO FROM HERE

TUESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Barbara Neiss, Director of SafeHouse Center will discuss the concepts of sexual assault, harassment, and rape. *This program is in partnership with SAFE House Center as part of National Stalking Awareness Month.* **MALLETTS CREEK GRADE 9-ADULT**

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS FORUM: LINE 5 AND OTHER CHALLENGES IMPACTING THE GREAT LAKES

TUESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

The Great Lakes Committee of the Ann Arbor chapter of the League of Women Voters will host expert panelists, including Dr. Eric Anderson (NOAA) and Liz Kirkwood (FLOW), for a discussion on challenges facing the Great Lakes. **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM**

JAN 25

FILM: ANN ARBOR FILM FESTIVAL 55TH TOUR

THURSDAY • 7:00-9:00 PM

The 55th Ann Arbor Film Festival Tour screens recent independent and experimental short films from this year's festival. *The Ann Arbor Film Festival is the longest-running independent and experimental film festival in North America.* **DTN MULTI-PURPOSE RM • GRADE 9-ADULT**

JAN 28

PRESCHOOL EXPO

SUNDAY • 1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Looking for a preschool? The annual Preschool Expo brings representatives from area preschools to one location on one date. Explore your options and find the best preschool for your child. **DTN LOBBY**

JAN 30

FRENCH MACARONS 101 WITH KEEGAN RODGERS

TUESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Keegan C. Rodgers, head baker at the People's Food Co-Op, leads this workshop on how to make macarons! *This event is in partnership with the People's Food Co-Op and is part of an ongoing baking series.* **PITTSFIELD • GRADE 6-ADULT**

FOR INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND MORE, VISIT AADL.ORG

(Tues. 11–11:30 a.m.; Wed. 6–6:30 p.m.; & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Westgate (Mon. 11–11:30 a.m. except Jan. 1, Wed. 1–1:30 p.m., & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story rm. Free. 327–8301.*

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for $5.50 (age 60 & over, $3) from 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.; reservations required. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★**Adults Tuesday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($3), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar. Also, at 1 p.m., **mah-jongg, quilting,** and other games & activities. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

★**"Focus on Women: The Huron River Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Jan. 2, 9, & 16.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18–30 miles, to Dexter and back. *6 p.m., meet at Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 276–0240.*

★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6–9 p.m., call for location. Free, $2 monthly dues. meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/, 945–3035.*

★**"Tuesday Night Dinner Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Tues.* Slow/moderate-paced ride on the B2B trail, 10–20 miles, to an Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti restaurant determined by the group. Front & back lights required; reflective clothing strongly suggested. *6:30 p.m., meet at Wheels in Motion, 3402 Washtenaw. Free. 678–8297.*

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun.–Wed. & Fri. except Jan. 1.* All invited to play in competitive and casual tournaments of this popular collectible card game using various decks, including modern (Mon., competitive), Elder Dragon Highlander/Commander (Tues., casual), standard (Wed. 6 p.m., casual), Legacy (Wed. 6:30 p.m., competitive), booster draft (Fri. 6 p.m. & Sun. 1 p.m., competitive), and modern (Fri. 6:30 p.m., casual) decks. Bring your own cards for casual tournaments. Also, all invited to play the 2-person card game **Netrunner** (free) at 6 p.m. on Mondays. *6:30 p.m. (Mon.–Wed. & Fri.), 6 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.), & 1 p.m. (Sun.), Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. $5 (casual), $10 (competitive & booster draft), & free (Tues.). 786–3746.*

English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $8 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

Eastside Weekly Euchre Tournament. *Every Tues.* All age 18 & over invited to play. No partner needed. Cash prize for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place. *7 p.m., Banfield's Bar & Grill East, 3140 Packard. $5 entry fee; buy your own food. kari.thurman@gmail.com*

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 50-member a cappella barbershop harmony chorus. *7–9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($26 monthly dues for those who join). 612–7580.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors (annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: 796–7467.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. *Jan. 2 & 16. See review, p. 49.* Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. *7:30–9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), Greyline, 100 N. Ashley. $8. 764–5118.*

★**German Conversation.** *Every Tues. & Thurs.* All German speakers, native or non-native, invited for conversation with either or both of 2 long-running groups, the German Speakers Round Table (Tues.) and the Stammtisch (Thurs.). *8–10 p.m., Grizzly*

storytelling

Moth StorySLAM

Judged by people, hosted by pros



MARK BIALEK

Most people know the Moth through the Moth Radio Hour. National Public Radio latched onto this quirky gem—where amateurs tell stories on a given theme—in 2009, but it began a decade before it became a radio show, in the living room of poet George Dawes Greene, who wanted to revive the Southern custom of porch-sitting and tale-swapping (while moths banged at the screens—hence the name). In its 2017 maturity, TheMoth.org bulldozer dishes up storytelling by the ton, in the form of live events, blogs, podcasts, and assorted other media preparations, of which the Moth Radio Hour is only a small, but highly effective, part.

The real grassroots base of the Moth is the StorySLAM that takes place in twenty-five cities around the world, with Ann Arbor as one of its more active franchises. StorySLAM happens here twice monthly. The process of recruiting both storytellers and judges is scrupulously random, fair, and too complicated to go into here; see TheMoth.org if you want to do more than spectate.

This is not the style of storytelling seen in children's programming, with exaggerated facial expressions and costumes. It's more like improv or stand-up in its relaxed connection with the audience and casually adult content. A StorySLAM consists of ten contestants telling five-minute stories around a previously announced theme. There's no prize, but winners can advance to the GrandSLAM.

Here's a surprise about listening to storytelling, especially in a contest setting. It's less about feeling the art and more about giving the left side of your brain a workout. Whether you want to or not, you end up examining how words do their job. How does a badly told story with a cracking good point stack up against one that has knockout delivery and trivial content? The winning story on December 4 (at a slam themed "Dirt") was not the one I would have chosen: a first-person confession of sexual abuse at a private school, whose topicality seemed to have stolen a sympathy vote from the judges. The people I was with unanimously would have chosen the guy from Cleveland, whose father outmaneuvered the drain commission.

I'm guessing that at least three of the contestants that night were not only regular StorySLAM-ers, but also comedy open-mike regulars, who had massaged a tale told in another venue into that night's theme, but the lack of monetary reward and the random drawing of contestants naturally limits the competition to amateurs, even if they're good ones. (And the fear of total humiliation in front of 200 people places a floor at the other end.)

StorySLAM is ably hosted by warmly energetic Amir Baghdadchi and coolly deadpan Patricia Wheeler, who both genuinely embrace and welcome first-time storytellers and briskly slap them with a list of rules that let them know this is a ticketed event, not show-and-tell at the Montessori school.

Because of the "Dirt" theme, the December 4 slam was predictably heavy on blue humor. I saw no children there, but one of the people in my party asked Patricia Wheeler if he could have brought his ten-year-old. She said: "if it's OK with you, it's OK with me."

This month's slams are on January 2 and 16 at Zingerman's Greyline on Huron.

—Sally Mitani

Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453–2394 (Tues.) & 678–1017 (Thurs.).

"4th Annual Ann Arbor 50 First Jokes": The Ark. Fifty comics from around Michigan, both veterans and upstarts, take turns telling the 1st joke they've written in 2018. Similar events, which began at the Bell House in Brooklyn more than a decade ago, now also take place in New Orleans and L.A. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.*

★**Opera on Tap.** Local opera singers perform arias and art songs that address this month's theme, **"Religion Is a Fine Thing … Until Someone Gets Hurt!"** *8:30–10 p.m. (seating begins at 6:30 p.m.), Sidetrack Bar & Grill, 56 E. Cross, Ypsilanti. Free, but donations accepted (buy your own food). Reservations required (call between 10 a.m. & 8 p.m.). 483–5230.*

3 WEDNESDAY

Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs. except Jan. 1.* All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) & ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. Refreshments. *Noon–3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.) & 12:30–4 p.m. (Mon.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $3 (members, $2) on Mon., $7 (members, $6) on Wed. & Thurs. 794–6250.*

★**Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops.** *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. *Noon–12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Concerto Competition Finals: U-M School of Music.** *Jan. 3 & 4.* Performances by undergrad (Jan. 3) and grad (Jan. 4) music students. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabble Club.** *Every Wed.* Word freaks of all abilities invited to drop in to play this popular word game, using the 5th edition Scrabble dictionary. Bring your own set, if you like. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084.*

★**Letterpress Lab: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Wed.* All invited to learn the basics of letterpress printing using vintage handset type. The program begins promptly at 6 p.m. with a safety & equipment orientation. *6–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Kerrytown Crafters.** *Every Wed.* All crocheters, knitters, cross-stitchers, hand quilters, and other crafters invited to work on their projects. Questions welcome, help available. *6:30–8:30 p.m. or so, Sweetwaters in Kerrytown, 407 N. Fifth Ave. Free. Facebook.com/groups/KTCrafters, 926–8863.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline east of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

Drew Nelson: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. This Grand Rapids–based Americana roots-rock singer-songwriter recently released *Tilt-a-Whirl*, a CD that drew praise from *AllMusic* reviewer James Allen for its thoughtful lyrics. Opening act is **Mike Vial,** the Ann Arbor pop-rock singer-songwriter. *7–9 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson, Chelsea. $15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330–5226.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** *Rescheduled from Dec.* All invited to join a discussion of ***Bibliomysteries: Stories of Crime in the World of Books and Bookstores,*** a new collection of stories by top mystery writers commissioned and edited by The Mysterious Bookshop (NYC) owner Otto Penzler. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** *Every Wed.* All invited to join a discussion of *Love & Its Meaning in the World,* a collection of themed lectures by Steiner. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 678–5497.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Every Wed.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're flying around the room. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. *9–11 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Rm. (Jan. 3, 10, & 17) & Michigan Union Pendleton Rm. (Jan. 31). $5 (students, $4; $1 discount for members; free for those who attend the lesson). 945–8428.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Ryan Halsey hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

4 THURSDAY

★**Mah-Jongg: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Thurs.* All seniors invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Beginners welcome. *10 a.m.–noon, Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 332–1874.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon. & Thurs. except Jan. 1.* All seniors invited to play this intricate game resembling gin rummy that's played with colorful tiles instead of cards. Lunch available from 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. ($5.50; age 60 & over, $3; reservations required). *10–11:30 a.m. (Thurs.), & 1–3:30 p.m. (Mon.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

"Little Paws Story Time": Huron Valley Humane Society. *Every Thurs.* Kids ages 2–5, accompanied by an adult, invited for stories, crafts, finger plays, and interaction with adoptable cats. Also, a chance to make a toy or treat for the animals. *10:30 a.m., 3100 Cherry Hill Rd. $5 per child (babies under age 1, free). Space limited; preregistration recommended at hshv.org/littlepaws. 661–3575.*

★**Gifts of Art Concert Series: U-M Hospitals.** *Every Thurs.* Performances by area musicians. *Jan. 4:* Old-time jazz, blues, and ragtime by pianist **Jerry Perrine.** *Jan. 11:* Jazz, swing, and pop by the **Standard Time Trio.** *Jan. 18:* Celtic fusion by **Derzier,** the duo of singer-flutist Kelly McDermott and multi-instrumentalist Rob Crozier. *Jan. 25:* Classical music by the **Karapetyan-Heaton Duo** of violinists Henrik Karapetyan and Eliot Heaton, with pianist Sonya Belaya. *12:10–1 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

★**Older Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center.** *Every Thurs.* A current events discussion group led by Heather Dombey. Vegetarian lunch ($3/person, $5 for nonseniors) available at noon. *1–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free, except as noted. 971–0990.*

★**"Erupting Sensory Snow": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to learn how to use simple ingredients to make a substance resembling snow, then add an ingredient to make it erupt. *2–3 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Intro to Pilates: Ann Arbor District Library.** Representatives from local MOVE Wellness Pilates studio present a hands-on introduction to basic exercises of this popular form of strength training. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

CURRENT EXHIBIT

A CENTURY OF
COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUBS

Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary & More!

The Museum *on* Main Street
500 N. Main Street • Ann Arbor
12-4 PM Saturdays & Sundays
Weekdays by appointment,
call 734.662.9092

WashtenawHistory.org

January 2018

Zell Visiting Writers Series



FICTION BY
Brit Bennett
&
POETRY BY
Jane Hirshfield

READING & BOOKSIGNING
THURSDAY JANUARY 25TH
530PM UMMA Helmut Stern

All listed ZWWS events are free & open to the public. For more information, see lsa.umich.edu/writers.

JANUARY EVENTS



Urban Bush Women by Haylm Heron

What's in a Song

Martin Katz, piano and curator

Singers to include:
Nicole Cabell, soprano
Daniela Mack, mezzo-soprano
Nicholas Phan, tenor
John Relyea, bass
Saturday, January 6 // 8 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

One of the highlights of the 2015-16 UMS season was the opening of the first Song Biennial, in which Martin Katz curated a wonderful evening featuring a variety of singers examining the different components of a song. This second edition features a different cast of characters, with Katz's inimitable knowledge of the vast song repertoire guiding the evening.

Presenting Sponsor: **Maurice and Linda Binkow Vocal and Chamber Arts Endowment Fund**

Hair & Other Stories

Urban Bush Women

Jawole Zollar, founder
Friday, January 12 // 8 pm
Power Center

Hair & Other Stories is a multidisciplinary work that addresses matters of race, gender identity, and economic inequality through the lens of physical appearance, including the cultural significance of African-American women's hair. Weaving contemporary dance, music, and text with the history, culture, and spiritual traditions of the African Diaspora, this astonishing troupe performs works that bring untold stories to life.

Presenting Sponsor: MICHIGAN MEDICINE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Supporting Sponsor: TOYOTA

Funded in part by: **New England Foundation for the Arts' National Dance Project**
Media Partners: **Between the Lines, Michigan Radio 91.7 FM**, and **WDET 101.9 FM**

Haydn Mega-Concert

St. Lawrence String Quartet

Sunday, January 14 // 3 pm
Rackham Auditorium

In this special immersive concert, the SLSQ performs all six of Haydn's Op. 20 string quartets. First violinist Geoff Nuttall provides insightful commentary to accompany the performance. This concert will be performed with two intermissions, including a meal break (details at ums.org/haydn).

Presenting Sponsor: **Carl Cohen**, whose bequest will establish an endowment to support a Chamber Arts performance in perpetuity
Media Partners: **WGTE 91.3 FM** and **WRCJ 90.9 FM**



UMS presents No Safety Net, a three-week look at stage work that tackles social issues and draws diverse voices into focused conversation. With four productions on stage and a suite of contextual experiences, we aim for better understanding, resilience, and an ability to move beyond our comfort zones and lean in to the complexities of our global society.

Visit **ums.org/nosafetynet** for details.

Underground Railroad Game
Ars Nova

Wednesday, January 17 - Sunday, January 21
Arthur Miller Theatre

Two middle-school teachers incorporate an interactive role-playing game into their lesson on the history of the Underground Railroad. Outside the classroom, their relationship turns romantic, offering the audience their own lesson about the cross-sections of race, sex, and power.

U.S. Premiere

US/Them
BRONKS and Richard Jordan Productions

Wednesday, January 24 - Sunday, January 28
Arthur Miller Theatre

Informed by interviews of children who survived a shocking event in 2004, when 1,200 schoolchildren and their parents were held hostage on the first day of school by an armed group of Chechen separatists in North Ossetia, *Us/Them* offers an exploration of the way in which children psychologically cope with extreme and traumatic situations.

U.S. Premiere

(I Could Go On Singing) Over the Rainbow
FK Alexander with Okishima Island Tourist Association

Friday, January 26 - Saturday, February 3
Stamps Gallery (201 S. Division St.)

In a moment of undivided love and attention, Glasgow-based performance artist FK Alexander takes your hand, fixes your gaze, and sings directly to you alongside a distorted version of Judy Garland's final recording of "Over the Rainbow," played through a wall of noise by the abrasive noise band Okishima Island Tourist Association. "Desperate, moving, distressing, and beautiful too." (*The Guardian*)

They, Themself and Schmerm

Written and performed by **Becca Blackwell**
Wednesday, January 31 - Saturday, February 3
Arthur Miller Theatre

Part classic standup comedy special, part memoir, part performance art, *They, Themself and Schmerm* is trans actor Becca Blackwell's disturbingly hilarious personal tale of being adopted into a Midwestern religious family, trained to be a girl, molested, and plagued by the question "How do I become a man, and do I even want that?"

No Safety Net is part of **UMS Renegade** and is funded in part by the **Building Audiences for Sustainability** initiative of The **Wallace Foundation.**
Media partners: **Ann Arbor's 107one, Between the Lines,** and **Metro Times.**

Moscow's Vakhtangov Theater Live in HD
Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*

Directed by **Rimas Tuminas**
Sunday, January 21 // 7 pm
Michigan Theater

Rimas Tuminas's reimagining of Anton Chekhov's tale about broken illusions and dashed hopes is freed from traditional trappings, leaving behind a battlefield for passions and colliding ambitions.

Performed in Russian with English subtitles. Presented in partnership with the Michigan Theater.

M-Prize Winner
Russian Renaissance

Saturday, January 27 // 8 pm
Rackham Auditorium

The grand prize winner of the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance's 2017 M-Prize competition, Russian Renaissance presents "high caliber traditional folk music through a modern lens." With their professional debut in October 2015, the quartet — which includes traditional Russian instruments — brings together tradition and modernity in unique crossover and fusion styles.

In addition to the evening performance, the quartet will also present a sensory friendly open rehearsal for audience members who would benefit from a more relaxed environment, including people with autism spectrum disorders, sensory or communication disorders, and their friends and families. Free, no registration required. January 27 from 11 am-12 noon. More details at **ums.org/openrehearsal**.

Presenting Sponsor: **Helmut F. and Candis J. Stern Endowment Fund,** which supports an annual UMS Chamber Arts performance
Media Partner: **WGTE 91.3 FM**

Maxim Vengerov, violin
Roustem Saïtkoulov, piano

Sunday, January 28 // 4 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Brahms	Scherzo in c minor from the "F-A-E" Sonata
Brahms	Sonata No. 3 in d minor, Op. 108
Ravel	Violin Sonata No. 2 in G Major
Heinrich Ernst	"The Last Rose of Summer" Variations
Paganini	Cantabile for Violin and Piano in D Major, Op. 17
Paganini	Variations on "I Palpiti," Op. 13 (arr. Fritz Kreisler)

Presenting Sponsor: **Oscar Feldman Endowment Fund**
Supporting Sponsor: **Mainstreet Ventures**
Media Partners: **WGTE 91.3 FM** and **WRCJ 90.9 FM**

Janai Brugger, soprano
Martin Katz, piano

Wednesday, January 31 // 7:30 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

Winner of Placido Domingo's prestigious Operalia competition in 2012, soprano Janai Brugger is a U-M alumna, who studied with the late Shirley Verrett. Brugger also won the Kennedy Center's 2016 Marian Anderson Vocal Award and was identified by *Opera News* as one of their top 25 "brilliant young artists" in 2015. Program includes songs of Francis Poulenc, Franz Schubert, Richard Strauss, Sergei Rachmaninoff, and Lee Hoiby.

Supporting Sponsor: **Maurice and Linda Binkow Philanthropic Fund**

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UMS.ORG



2017-2018 YEAR OF ARCHIVES & FUTURES

Events at the **Institute for the Humanities** University of Michigan January 2018

All events are held at the **Institute for the Humanities, 202 S. Thayer,** unless otherwise noted.

All events are **free and open to the public**

734.936.3518

humin@umich.edu

Image: Ebony Patterson

INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN | LSA

High Stakes Culture

A new series bringing humanities perspectives to bear on current debates.

Jan 23 — "What Does it Mean to Take a Knee?" with **Angela Dillard, Matthew Countryman, Mark Clague**, and **Kristin Hass**, 2435 North Quad, 5pm

Gallery

Innovative exhibitions and arts programming.

Jan 11-Feb 9 — *Of 72* exhibition by **Ebony Patterson**

Jan 18-Feb 23 — *Pre-Fab/Post-Fab: Art in a Readymade Era* pop-up exhibition by **Heidi Barlow, Shaina Kasztelan**, and **Bailey Scieszka**

Jan 18 — *Pre-Fab/Post-Fab: Art in a Readymade Era* artist reception with featured performance by **Bailey Scieszka**, 6pm

FellowSpeak

Ongoing exchange with our fellows past and present.

Jan 23 — "What is a People? Some Lessons from Gandhi's India," **Mrinalini Sinha**, 12:30-1:30pm

Author's Forum

A series on books & ideas presented in collaboration with the University Library and the College of LSA.

Jan 24 — *How to Read African-American Literature:* A Conversation with **Aida Levy-Hussen** and **Victor Mendoza**, Hatcher Library Gallery #100, 913 S. University, 5:30pm

Frame Salon Series

A salon series on visual art, performance, and identity, presented in collaboration with UMS.

Jan 22 — Open dialogue hosted by **Jennifer Harge** and **Taylor Renee Aldridge**, 7pm

www.lsa.umich.edu/humanities

★**Ann Arbor Go Club.** *Every Sun. & Thurs.* Players of all skill levels invited to play this challenging strategy board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *7 p.m. (Thurs.) & 5 p.m. (Sun.), Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. Meetings run until closing time, usually midnight. Free. umich.edu/~goclub*

★**"Electronics Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 4 & 18.* All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to do a computing activity TBA. Bring a flash drive if you want to save any code created during the event. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Comhaltas.** *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *7:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. facebook.com/DetroitIMA*

Derek Richards: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 4–6.* A Detroit native who now lives in Florida, Richards is known for his fast-paced stream of sarcastic, often hysterically livid observations about everything from phone solicitors and computers to Taco Bell and the experience of dating an exotic dancer. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

5 FRIDAY

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Mon. & Fri. except Jan. 1.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. *12:30–4:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Puppet Show: Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL storytellers perform a puppet show for kids in grades preK-3. *2–2:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose room. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Drink & Draw/Imbibe & Inscribe": Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Every Fri.* All invited to draw or write. Supplies and writing and drawing prompts provided. *3–7 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

"Pets & Pajamas Movie Night": Huron Valley Humane Society. *Jan. 5 & 26.* Kids ages 5–11 invited to watch animal-themed movies, including the animated films ***Home*** (Jan. 5) and ***Up*** (Jan. 26). Also, a chance to interact with adoptable pets. Pizza dinner. Wear pajamas and bring a sleeping bag and pillow. *5–9 p.m., Humane Society, 3100 Cherry Hill (south off Plymouth east of Dixboro). $35 ($15 for each additional sibling). Preregistration required. hshv.org, 661–3575.*

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Notre Dame. The U-M also has home games this month against **Penn State** (Jan. 19, 8 p.m. & Jan. 20, 7:30 p.m.), *6:30 p.m., Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State. Ticket price $30 & up at stubhub.com/michigan-wolverines-hockey-tickets. 764–0247.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

"Bluegrass Night": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Funky Frosty Friday. All invited to skate to vintage & contemporary bluegrass records. *7:15–8:45 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. $6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, $5). $1 discount for city residents. Skate rentals available ($3). 794–6234.*

"Family Mew-vie Night": Huron Valley Humane Society. *Jan. 5 & 19.* Screening of family-friendly movies, including the Disney animated film ***Mulan*** (Jan. 5) and the live-action comic drama ***Because of Winn-Dixie*** (Jan. 19). Also, a chance to snuggle with adoptable cats. Popcorn, juice, and water. Kids must be accompanied by an adult (at least 1 for every 3 kids). Bring pillows, sleeping bags, and blankets, if you wish. *Note:* This event usually sells out. *7:30 p.m., Tiny Lions Center, 5245 Jackson Rd. (ste. A1). $10. Space limited; preregistration recommended at tinylions.org/mewvienights. 661–3575.*

"An Evening of Sam Cooke": Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). A showcase of the pioneer soul singer's music by his youngest daughter, **Carla Cooke,** a composer-vocalist whose style, like her father's, ranges across gospel, R&B, soul, and pop genres. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"Cue This": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Fri. through Feb. 9.* The League of Pointless Improvisers performs a one-act improvised show guided by the "Genre Wheel" (spun by an audience member) and audience selections for sound and lighting cues. *8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets $15 (8 p.m.) & $12 (10 p.m.) in advance at pointlessbrew.com & at the door. (989) 455–4484.*

Derek Richards: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Friday Night Swing": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. 11:30 p.m.–1 a.m. is blues dancing. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a free beginner lesson. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. $5 (students with ID, $4; $1 discount for AACTMAD members). 417–9857.*

6 SATURDAY

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Robinsongs for Kids director Robin Robinson presents a program of music and movement for babies through 5-year-olds, accompanied by an adult. *10–10:40 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble.** *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Story Time: Bookbound.** *Every Sat.* Linda Zimmer reads seasonal stories for kids age 6 & under. *11 a.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at park office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $7 per player; free for spectators. $10 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

U-M Men's Basketball vs. Illinois. The U-M also has games this month against **Purdue** (Jan. 9, noon), **Maryland** (Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m.), **Rutgers** (Jan. 21, noon), and **Northwestern** (Jan. 29, 7 p.m.). *Noon, Crisler Center. Ticket prices $15–$60. 764–0247.*

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science: Mind Over Matter": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 6 & 7.* Science demos and experiments involving different states of matter. *1 & 3 p.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

"Creature Encounters": The Creature Conservancy. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Conservancy staffers show **Poco the sloth** out of his cage on the conservancy's Stone Stage (2 & 4 p.m.). Also, **cougar feedings** (1:30 & 4:30 p.m.) and a chance to see the conservancy's other animals, including prairie dogs, kangaroos, giant tortoises, Arctic foxes, and more. *1–5 p.m., Creature Conservancy, 4950 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $8 (kids ages 2–12, $6; age 1 & under, free). 929–9324.*

★**"Galaxy Watercolor Painting": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults & teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a painting of a night sky. Material and guidance provided. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Attendees advised to call ahead if there's inclement weather. *2:30–5 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. juggling.info@umich.edu, umich.edu/~juggle, 761–1115.*

"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment. Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. a free **Kids Open Stage.** *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** *Jan. 6 & 20.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Saline. Free. 994–9307.*

★**"Icebreakers ^2": Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Every Sat.* All invited to play low-key parlor games. *4–7 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Drake Meadow calls contras to live music by Twas Brillig and the Mazel Toves. All dances taught; no partner needed. Bring clean shoes. The program begins with an hour of international dance. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and a silent auction fundraiser (bring items to auction). *7–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $12 (members, $11; students, $7). 646–4835, 769–1052.*

★**"Festival of Three Kings": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** A reading of the story of the 3 wise men from the Gospel of Luke and an informal enactment of the story. Cake. *7 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 678–5497, (517) 927–3696.*

"Drum and Dance Jam": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle led by percussionist Curtis Glatter. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

Milonga: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *Jan. 6 & 20.* Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Room. $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~matc*

"What's in a Song": University Musical Society. U-M piano professor **Martin Katz** hosts a program which examines and demonstrates the different components of a song. He's joined by the celebrated soprano **Nicole Cabell,** tenor (and U-M alum) **Nicholas Phan,** San Francisco Opera mezzo-soprano **Daniela Mack,** and bassist **John Relyea,** nephew of former Kerrytown Concert House owner and mezzo-soprano Deanna Relyea. *8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $40–$60 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Jon-Erik Kellso Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Trumpeter Kellso (a Detroit native) is a fixture of the NYC classic jazz scene, playing everything from New Orleans style to Tin Pan Alley standards to swing. He's joined by a local ensemble that includes renowned early-jazz pianist Jim Dapogny, bassist Kurt Krahnke, and drummer Pete Siers. *8 p.m., $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Pointless Improv Shows": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. *Every Sat.* Comedic improv by experienced local performers. *8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets $15 (8 p.m.) & $12 (10 p.m.). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

Derek Richards: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 4 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Latin Dance Party: Dance Revolution. *Jan. 6 & 20.* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. Preceded by beginner (7 p.m.) and intermediate/advanced (8 p.m.) salsa lessons. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $12 (students with ID, $8). Facebook.com/A2DanceRevolution*

7 SUNDAY

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sun.* All invited to a relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11:15 a.m., Fuller Park, just west of the pool & parking lot. Free. hac-ultimatelist@googlegroups.com, 846–9418.*

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Ohio State. The U-M also has games this month against **Indiana** (Jan. 10, 7 p.m.), **Illinois** (Jan. 20, 6 p.m.), and **MSU** (Jan. 23, 7 p.m.). *Noon, Crisler Center. $6 & $8 (groups of 10 or more, $3 each). 764–0247.*

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste samples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. *Noon–2 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. Reservations required. 929–6060.*

★**"Kerry Tales: Over the Moon with Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops.** 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★**"Minecraft Workshop": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Sun.* All kids in grades 3–8 invited to try out this popular computer game that involves constructing things with virtual blocks to work as a team to build and landscape, solve puzzles, battle monsters, and create a new virtual world. New & experienced players welcome. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Downtown training center. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Mini Yarn Monsters": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to learn how to turn yarn into a monster. *2–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Herringbone Wall Art": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to fold and cut decorative paper to make a piece of wall art. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Gloss: Modeling Beauty": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of photographs of female models and celebrities that were taken for glossy magazines by such leading photographers as Edward Steichen, Philippe Halsman, Helmut Newton, Andy Warhol, and Guy Bourdin. *2–3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**Kathryn Votapek & Read Gainsford: U-M School of Music.** U-M violin professor Votapek and New Zealand pianist Gainsford perform sonatas by Bartok, Schubert, and Fauré. *2 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Beer & Board Games: Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Every Sun.* All invited to play board games. Some games provided (or you can bring your own, if you wish). *4–7 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free admission (buy your own beer). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

★**Sarah Frisof & Daniel Pesca: U-M School of Music.** University of Maryland flute professor Frisof and University of Chicago chamber music director (and pianist) Pesca—both U-M alums—perform works by Clara Schumann, Gabriel Pierné, and contemporary composers Shulamit Ran and Amy Williams. *5:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

Euchre Tournament: Fraser's Pub. *Every Sun.* All invited to play 5 euchre games of 12 hands. No partner necessary. *6 p.m., Fraser's Pub, 2045 Packard. $5. sarah.aami@gmail.com*

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish *moresca.* Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm or check meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Morris-Dancing. 717–1569.*

Jamie Morgan: Ann Arbor Poetry. This Washtenaw International High School English teacher and forensics coach has competed in several regional poetry slams. Her most famous poem, "Credentialed Casualty," recounts her experience receiving active shooter training and the ethical implications of making split-second life and death decisions about the students supposedly in her care. Preceded by a poetry open mike. *7 p.m. Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. $5 suggested donation. facebook.com/AnnArborPoetry*

★**"The Arcade: Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** *Jan. 7 & 21.* All invited to play short-form improv games. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free (pay-what-you-can for spectators). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

8 MONDAY

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon. except Jan. 1.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10–11 a.m. & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed., 11 a.m.–noon), Westgate (Thurs. 2–3 p.m.), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL Downtown. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Mon. except Jan. 1.* All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. *1–3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**Zine Workshop: Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a personal sample of the famously low-budget self-produced magazine popularized in the underground scenes of the mid-to-late 20th century. Materials provided, but bring photos and magazine clippings, if you like. *2–2:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"India's Archaeological Heritage Since Independence: Challenges and Dilemmas": U-M Center for South Asian Studies.** Talk by Ashoka University (India) history professor Nayanjot Lahiri. *4 p.m., 110 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 615–4059.*

★**"Väv Immersion: Sixteen Weeks of Textile Heaven": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild.** Local textile artist Tammy Renner discusses a Swedish weaving course she recently took. The program begins with socializing. *6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall (lower level, enter on the east side of the building and take elevator down), 1501 W. Liberty. Free. annarborfiberarts@gmail.com*

★**"Sewing Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 8 & 22.* All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to get basic sewing help with their unfinished projects or learn how to use the AADL sewing machines. Basic sewing instruction available. All welcome to bring their own sewing machine. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Emerging Writers: Understanding Story Arc": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local short story writer Alex Kourvo and young adult novelist Bethany Neal discuss the complicated relationship between plot and character development. For adult and teen (grade 6 & up) fiction and nonfiction writers. Also, Kourvo and Neal host an open house for

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FILMS COMING THIS JANUARY TO THE MICHIGAN AND STATE THEATERS

I, Tonya
The story of Tonya Harding; critics have called it "a knockout" that takes "greater risks with the biopic genre than any other".

Phantom Thread
Catch DANIEL DAY-LEWIS in his final film performance before retirement!

The Post
STEVEN SPIELBERG's newest film with an all-star cast including MERYL STREEP and TOM HANKS.

The Final Year
A documentary account of President Barack Obama's foreign policy team during their last year in office.

Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story
This biopic about the actress, icon, and inventor and the highs and lows of Hedy Lamarr's life.

Faces Places
Winner of Best Documentary at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival.

Jane
Drawing from over 100 hours of never-before-seen footage, award-winning director BRETT MORGEN tells the story of JANE GOODALL like you've never seen her before.

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EXHIBITION RECEPTION: FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 6-8 PM

performative photography

EXHIBITION INFO:
STAMPS.UMICH.EDU/SUZY-LAKE



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The Extended Goodbye #2
2008-2009
Chromogenic print
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JANUARY 11

ANICKA YI

— conceptual artist



JANUARY 18

CLAUDIA RANKINE with P. CARL

— C. Rankine, author and poet
— P. Carl, dramaturg



TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

CHICO MACMURTIE

— amorphic robot works



JANUARY 25

HITO STEYERL

— visual philosopher



FEBRUARY 1

EBONY PATTERSON

— gendered adornment



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

JOSEPH KECKLER

— performance artist and writer



FEBRUARY 8

STEPHEN BURKS

— handmade design



FEBRUARY 15

JAIME HAYON

— fine furniture and interiors



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

CHICO MACMURTIE

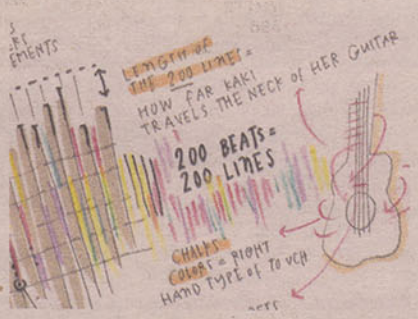
— amorphic robot works



MARCH 8

GIORGIA LUPI

— information designer



MARCH 15

CHELSEA MANNING

— transparency advocate



MARCH 22

YVONNE RAINER

— choreographer and filmmaker



MARCH 29

BRIAN SELZNICK

— illustrator, book magician



SPECIAL EVENTS

— **Tuesday, January 23 / Chico Macmurtie**
7:00 PM / Riverside Art Center
76 N. Huron St, Ypsilanti, MI 48197

— **Wednesday, February 7 / Joseph Keckler**
5:30 PM / Rackham Auditorium
915 E. Washingon St, Ann Arbor

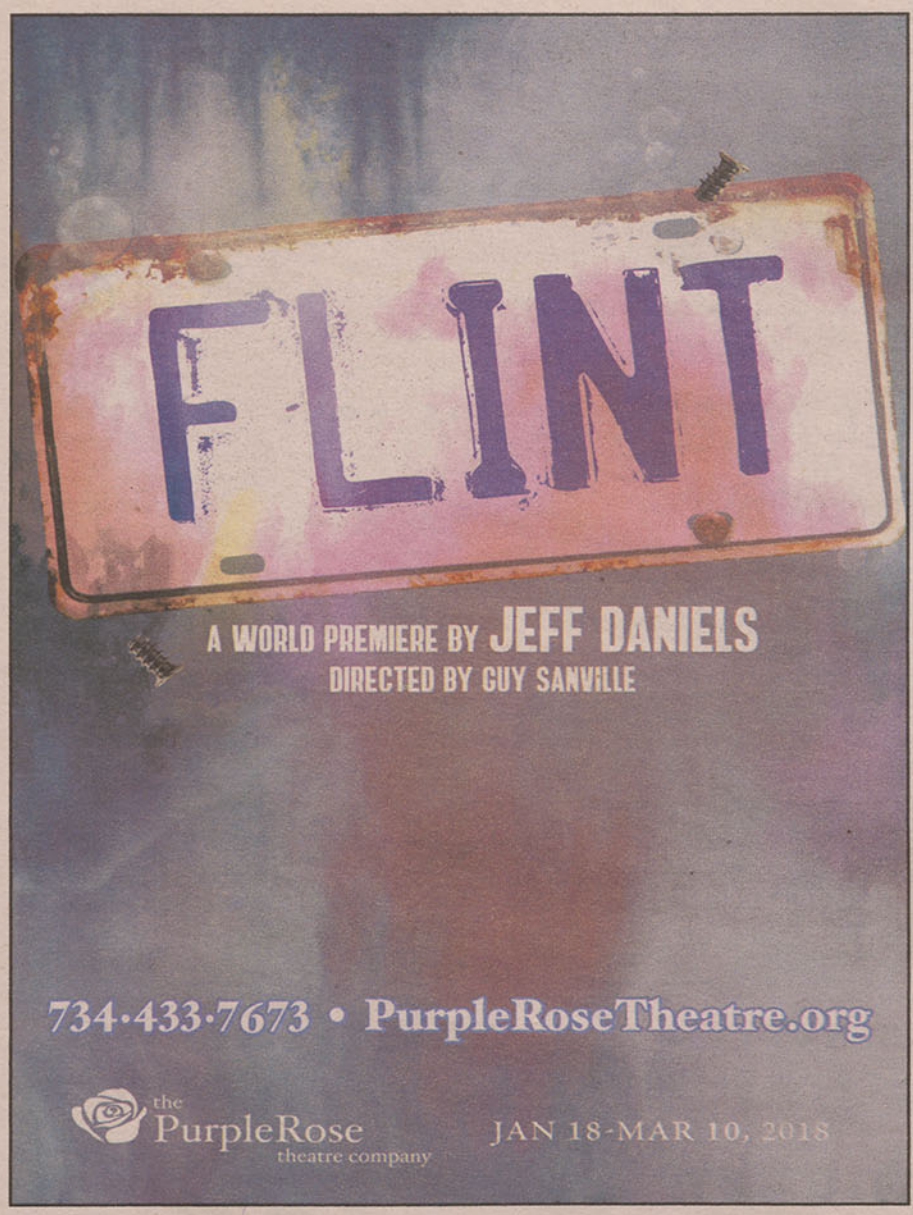
— **Friday, February 16 / Chico Macmurtie**
5:30 PM / Helmut Stern Auditorium
UMMA, 525 S State St, Ann Arbor

PRESENTING PARTNERS:

Institute for the Humanities
Institute for Research on Women and Gender
Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning
University Musical Society
Munger Graduate Residences
Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
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MATISSE DRAWINGS:
CURATED BY ELLSWORTH KELLY
FROM THE PIERRE AND TANA MATISSE FOUNDATION COLLECTION

SEEKING HENRI: MATISSE THROUGH THE EYES OF ELLSWORTH KELLY

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 5:30 P.M., HELMUT STERN AUDITORIUM

John R. Stomberg, the Virginia Rice Kelsey 1961 Director at the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College, worked directly with the late Ellsworth Kelly to create the exhibition *Matisse Drawings: Curated by Ellsworth Kelly from The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation Collection* now on view at UMMA through February 18, 2018. Join Dr. Stomberg for a lecture that traces the creative development of each artist, as well as new perspectives that emerged for him during the process co-curating the exhibition with Kelly.

Reception to follow.

Free and open to the public. For more information about this and other exhibition-related programs, please visit umma.umich.edu.

Matisse Drawings: Curated by Ellsworth Kelly from The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation Collection is organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum in collaboration with The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation.

This exhibition was made possible by the generous support of the Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Charitable Trust and The Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation. Additional support provided by the JFM Foundation and Mrs. Donald M. Cox.

Lead support for the local presentation of this exhibition is provided by the University of Michigan Office of the Provost, Michigan Medicine, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the Richard and Rosann Noel Endowment Fund, and the University of Michigan Ross School of Business and the Department of the History of Art.

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writers to connect with one another and/or work on their projects at 7 p.m. on Jan. 29. *7–8:45 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Lifetree Café.** *Every Mon., except Jan. 1.* All invited to join conversations on various topics led by St. Paul Lutheran Church members. Each discussion begins with a video introduction. Snacks provided. *Jan. 8:* **"Make the Most of Your Life."** *Jan. 15:* **"Care for Caregivers."** *Jan. 22:* **"News from the Future."** *Jan. 29:* **"Friends for Life."** *7–8 p.m., 500 W. Liberty. Free. 665–7912.*

★**"Little-Known Stories in American History, Part 2": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to listen to local storyteller Jim Glenn relate odd tidbits of U.S. history, 1830–1900. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"A 20-Year Journey with 19th-Century 'Fake News'": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.** Talk by amateur Civil War researcher Jim Epperson. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. Education Center Exhibition Rm., 5305 Elliott Dr. Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★**"The Woman Who Smashed Codes": Literati Bookstore.** Award-winning freelance journalist **Jason Fagone** discusses and reads from his book tracing America's code-breaking history through the life Elizabeth Smith, a Shakespeare scholar-turned-codebreaker whose contributions ranged from helping nab smugglers during Prohibition to helping crack multiple versions of the German Enigma machine. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *Every Mon. except Jan. 1.* Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5. 395–7782, 769–1052, 426–0241.*

★**Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** All invited to vote on best and worst designed stamps and other categories in the *Linn's Stamp News* annual poll. Also, American Philatelic Society circuit books and a mini stamp auction. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free. harwin@umich.edu, 761–5859.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($35 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Mon. except Jan. 1.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

9 TUESDAY

Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. *Every Tues. (when Ann Arbor Public Schools are in session) through Apr. 30.* All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. *9:30–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. $25 for the year. 665–0105.*

"Brain Aging and What You Can Do About It": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by U-M psychology professor **Thad Polk.** Fifth in a series of 10 monthly lectures. *10–11:30 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $65 (members, $45) for the 10-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.*

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Voices Valiant (U-M School of Music).** *Every Tues. beginning Jan. 9.* All age 50 & over invited to join this choir. No experience necessary. *10:30 a.m., Liberty School Band Room, 7265 N. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Free for first-time visitors ($112 to join). 936–2660.*

★**"Creative Break": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Tues.* All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to take up a predetermined challenge using provided art supplies. *Noon–1:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab (Jan. 9, 23, & 30) & 4th-floor meeting rm. (Jan. 16). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Rome and the Latins in the Early Republic: from Narrative to History": U-M Classics Department.** Talk by U-M postdoc Nicolas Meunier. *4–5:30 p.m., Angell Hall Classical Studies library. Free. 764–0360.*

★**"The West's Democratic Challenge: Central Europe's Variant and What America Can Do": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies.** Talk by retired diplomat Daniel Fried, a former U.S. ambassador to Poland and assistant secretary of State for European and Eurasian affairs. *4–5:30 p.m., 1010 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Update on Current Beekeeping Practices": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** Talk by former club president Richard Mendel. *6:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. A2B2club@gmail.com*

★**"Button Art": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 9 & up invited to make buttons using provided supplies. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Self-Care Massage": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 9 & 23.* Lecture-demo by local massage therapist Brian Truskowski on how to self-massage muscles of the **upper body** (Jan. 9) and **lower back** (Jan. 23). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek (Jan. 9) & AADL Pittsfield (Jan. 23). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss ***Doomsday Book,*** Connie Willis's epic 1992 sci-fi novel about an Oxford history student in 2048 who's transported to a 14th-century English village just before the onset of the plague. *7–9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

"Ann Arbor Bluegrass Meetup": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Jan. 9 & 23.* All musicians invited to bring their acoustic instruments to play bluegrass and bluegrass-style music. Vocalists welcome. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5. a2bluegrass.com, 794–6250.*

★**"The Songs of Trees: Stories from Nature's Great Connectors": Huron Valley Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss David George Haskell's book. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of ***La Borra del Café,*** Mario Benedetti's novel about a young man growing up in 1930s Montevideo. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

10 WEDNESDAY

"Nature Storytime": Leslie Science and Nature Center. *Jan. 10, 14, 17, 24, 28, & 31.* All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited for a program of stories and nature-based activities on different themes. *Jan. 10 & 14:* **"Feathers & Wings."** *Jan. 17:* **"Flying Home."** *Jan. 24 & 28:* **"Chirp, Peep, Caw!"** *Jan. 31:* **"Nests."** *10–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $5 per child (members' children, $4). 997–1553.*

★**Noon Lecture: U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies.** *Jan. 10 & 24.* Bring a bag lunch, if you like. *Jan. 10:* Université de Montréal political science professor Magdalena Dembinska discusses **"European Regions: Ethnopolitical Mobilization in Upper Silesia."** *Jan. 24:* Human Rights Watch Russia program director Tanya Lokshina on **"Crackdown in Chechnya: Ramzan Kadyrov's Brutal Rule and International Human Rights."** *Noon–1:30 p.m., 555 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Working Towards a More Resilient Nation": U-M Hatcher Grad Library.** Talk by Missy Stults, a climate resilience and sustainability expert who has worked with more than 600 local governments to advance their climate change mitigation efforts. Discussion. *2–3:30 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 615–1351.*

★**"Examining the Effects of Gentrification": U-M MLK Symposium.** Panel discussion with WSU social work professor Tam Perry, Centric Design Studio architect Saundra Little, U-M School of Art & Design grad Shayna Brown, and U-M sociology & public policy grad student Lydia Wileden. *2–4 p.m., 1430 ISR, 426 Thompson. Free. 615–9517.*

"Just for Kids: Explore the World of Sauces!": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's Deli staff discuss the history and uses of some of their most popular sweet and savory sauces. Tastings for kids. Parents welcome to lurk in the background for free. *5:30–6:30 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. $15 per kid. 663–3354.*

★**"What Humans Live By": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Local storyteller Rosemary Caruso tells Tolstoy's 1885 short story about a couple who take in a destitute man who turns out to be an angel. The program begins with a potluck (bring a dish to pass). *6:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 769–1052, 274–0773.*

★**Seed Cleaning and Exchange: Wild Ones.** Demonstration of seed cleaning techniques for native plants. All invited to bring seeds to clean and exchange. Seeds available to take home. *6:45–8:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 604–4674.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited

to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★**"Premature Aging: How to Avoid Growing Old Before Your Time": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by Rochester Hills–based physician Nishath Hakim, owner of Prosperity Heath, which integrates primary care with holistic medicine. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.*

★**History Readers: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to join a discussion, led by EMU history professor emeritus Michael Homel, of Richard Fried's ***Nightmare in the Red: The McCarthy Era in Perspective.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 484–3613.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

11 THURSDAY

"Architecture: Shaping Buildings, Shaping Us": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *Every Thurs. (except Jan. 25), Jan. 11–Feb. 22.* A series of 6 weekly lectures by various speakers. *Jan. 11:* U-M architecture professor Eric Hill on **"Michigan Modern: Design That Shaped America."** *Jan. 18:* Lawrence Technological University architecture professor Dale Allen Gyure on **"The Architecture of Minoru Yamasaki,"** who designed the World Trade Center. *Feb. 1:* Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research director Gregory Wittkopp on **"Cranbrook's Architecture in Three Chapters."** *Feb. 8:* U-M architecture and urban planning professor Anya Sirota on **"Other Ways of Doing Things: Architecture and Urban Activism."** *Feb. 15:* U-M urban design professor Geoffrey Thün on **"Plausible Futures: Approaching Architecture and Design from a Complex Systems Perspective."** *Feb. 22: Detroit Free Press* journalist John Gallagher gives an **"Update on the City of Detroit."** *10–11:30 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $50 (members, $30) for the 6-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.*

★**"The Economy of Fear in 19th-Century Japan": U-M Center for Japanese Studies.** Talk by Harvard University Japanese history professor David Howell. *11:30 a.m., 110 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764–6307.*

★**U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series.** *Jan. 11, 18, & 25.* Talks by visiting artists. *Jan. 11:* **"The Flavor Genome."** NYC-based conceptual artist **Anicka Yi** discusses her installations that often use fragrance to create visceral sensory experiences. *Jan. 18:* Jamaican-born poet and playwright **Claudia Rankine** and Emerson College artist-in-residence **P. Carl** discuss **"Theater Matters: Activism, Imagination, Citizenship."** *Jan. 25:* German filmmaker and writer **Hito Steyerl** discusses her work, which explores capitalism from the perspectives of art, philosophy, and politics. *5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668–8463.*

★**"The Other Detroit": U-M MLK Symposium.** Panel discussion on what can be done to assure that Detroit's largely black neighborhoods share in the economic revival that's currently confined to the downtown Woodward corridor. Panelists TBA. *6–8 p.m., 2104 U-M Art & Architecture, 2000 Bonisteel. Free. 763–6518.*

★**3-D Printing Demo: Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff show adults and kids in grade 6 & up how to use the Printrbot 3-D printer. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Rebellious Mourning": Literati Bookstore.** Grassroots social and political activist **Cindy Milstein,** author of *Anarchism and Its Aspirations,* and writer **Jeff Clark** discuss this book that Milstein edited and Clark contributed to. It's a collection of essays that explore the power of grieving to effect social transformation. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**"Electric Vehicles: City of Ann Arbor 2018 Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion on the future of transportation with electric vehicle experts. Also, a "ride and drive" event sponsored by the Michigan Electric Auto Association, 5–7 p.m. on Library Lane. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose rm. (lower level). Free. 327–4555.*

★**String Preparatory Academy Faculty Recital: U-M School of Music.** Young string musicians and their instructors perform traditional string repertoire. *7 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

"The Explorers Club": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *Jan. 11–14.* Brodie Brockie directs local actors in Nell Benjamin's 2014 farcical comedy about a group of eccentric explorers in Victorian London who try to protect their club from being infiltrated by a woman. Cast: Adam Peterson, Jared Hoffert, Ann Stoner, Jimmy Dee Arnold, Tom Underwood, Christopher Tiffany, Charles Sutherland, Larry Rusinsky, and Pat Johnson. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), U-M Walgreen Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin. Tickets $22 (seniors age 60 & over, $20; Thurs., $17; students, $11 on any day) in advance at a2ct.org, by phone, and at the door. 971–2228.*

Peter Formanek and Josh Harlow: Kerrytown Concert House. Ypsilanti-based pianist Harlow is joined by saxophonist Formanek (son of acclaimed bassist Michael Formanek) for an evening of free jazz. *8 p.m. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

Brian Scolaro: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 11–13.* Local debut of this L.A.-based actor-comic, known for his stints on TBS's *Sullivan and Son* and Fox's *Stacked.* He delivers laconic observations about matters ranging from the plethora of early-morning urban noises to the indignities of being fat in a culture obsessed with thinness. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $13 (Thurs.) & $16 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

12 FRIDAY

★**"Sensation Stations": Ann Arbor District Library.** All toddlers ages 18 months–3 years invited to drop in to engage their senses by scooping, pouring, squeezing, and shaking a variety of materials. *10:30–11:15 a.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Seeking Henri: Matisse Through the Eyes of Ellsworth Kelly": UMMA.** Dartmouth College art museum director John Stomberg discusses the current exhibit of Matisse drawings he helped create with the late artist Kelly. *5:30–7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Cheese 101": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery retail manager Tessie Ives-Wilson discusses and offers taste samples of the 7 major varieties of cheese. Bread & other accompaniments provided. *6–8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. Reservations required. 929–0500.*

★**Colleen M. Fitzgerald: U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk on a topic TBA by this University of Texas-Arlington linguistics professor, a specialist in Native American and other indigenous languages. *6–8 p.m., 2104 U-M Art & Architecture, 2000 Bonisteel. Free. 764–0353.*

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. *Note: 2nd Friday in Jan.* All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine and challah. Children welcome. *6:30–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 (family, $25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975–9872.*

★**"Homemade Face Masks & Scrubs": Ann Arbor District Library.** Imagine Three Beauty Studio makeup artist Hannah Butler shows adults and high school-age teens how to use natural ingredients to care for their skin. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Secret Lab (lower level). Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Women in the Castle": Nicola's Books.** Massachusetts fiction writer **Jessica Shattuck,** author of the award-winning debut novel *The Hazards of Good Breeding,* and U-M Residential College undergrad creative writing director Laura Hulthen Thomas discuss Shattuck's new novel, set at the end of WWII in a crumbling Bavarian castle, about 3 women haunted by the past. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Advanced English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Maryland caller Susan Taylor leads to live music by Debbie Jackson, Josh Burdick, and Susie Lorand. For experienced dancers. *7:30–10:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. $12 (members, $10). (248) 288–4737.*

"7th Annual Ragtime Extravaganza": River Raisin Ragtime Revue. This Tecumseh-based orchestra hosts its annual ragtime and vaudeville show. Performers include Chicago stride pianist **Paul Asaro** (the pianist in the Broadway production *Jelly Roll!*), renowned carnival sideshow entertainer and magician (and host of the Investigation Discovery channel series *True Nightmares)* **Todd Robbins,** acclaimed local bass-baritone (and U-M voice professor) **Daniel Washington,** *So You Think You Can Dance* featured tap dancer **Bianca Revels,** local early-jazz pianist **James Dapogny,** local vocalist and guitar virtuoso **Rollie Tussing,** and the **Working Class Tuba Quartet,** founded in 1986 by River Raisin Ragtime Revue director William Pemberton. *8 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $45 in advance at ragtimeband.org. (517) 673–2597.*

"Every Which Way: 66th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Program. *Jan. 12–14.* EMU dance students

DANCING GLOBALLY

Choreography by:
Ohad Naharin
Shannon Gillen
Missy Beck
Sandra Torijano

Department of Dance
2017-2018 Season

February 1 at 7:30 PM
February 2 & 3 at 8 PM
February 4 at 2 PM
Power Center

Reserved Seating $30 & $24
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OLLI EVENTS– JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2018

Architecture: Shaping Buildings, Shaping Us
Thursdays, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.,
January 11 - February 22, 2018
No lecture on January 25
Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Building, Towsley Auditorium
4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor, MI
Cost: $30/series or $10/day pass

AFTER FIVE
"After Five" provides informal learning in a congenial group setting. Local personalities present programs in the early evening to encourage attendance by preretirees as well as retirees. There is no membership fee for After Five Events.

Creating and Running Great Ann Arbor Restaurants
Wednesday, February 7, 2018, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Kellogg Eye Center Auditorium
1000 Wall St., Ann Arbor, MI
Cost: $10 per event or $45 for 5 winter-spring events

YOU ARE INVITED TO

OLLI's Winter Open House and 30th Anniversary Celebration
Friday, January 5, 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Morris Lawrence Building,
Washtenaw Community College

Distinguished Lecture Series
Tuesday mornings, 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Washtenaw Community College, Towsley Auditorium
4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI

Tuesday, January 9
Brain Aging and What You Can Do About it
with Prof. Thad Polk, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, Department of Psychology at UM

Tuesday, February 13
Getting into Michigan Musical Theater
with Vince J. Cardinal, Chairman of the UM Musical Theater Department

A Special Presentation with the Chelsea District Library
"Born With Africa In Them" with Mark Fancher of the ACLU of Michigan
Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Chelsea District Library - McKune Room
221 S Main St., Chelsea, MI 48118
To register, please call: (734) 475-8732.
Registration is free.

REGISTRATION BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10TH

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Scholarships available for all OLLI programs.

perform an eclectic mix of genres from ballet and modern to musical theater and jazz dance by faculty and guest choreographers, including WMU dance professor **Jeremy Blair,** U-M dance grad **Sean Hoskins,** Ballet Theatre of Toledo artistic director **Nigel Burgoine,** EMU dance student **Natalia de Miguel Annoni,** Hardcore Detroit dance company director **Haleem "Stringz" Rasul,** Detroit-based performance company White Werx director **Marcus White,** and EMU dance professors **Joanna McNamara, Sherry Jerome Wilkinson,** and **Phil Simmons.** Program: Blair's *Whoa, Man!* is an exploration of gender norms set to the music of Esquivel, Jean-Philip Goude, and Fredo Viola. Hoskins' *To Remember Something* is inspired by the disconnect between memory and actuality set to his own score performed by English electronica musicians Four Tet and Holy Other. Burgoine's *A Rhapsody for EMU,* set to Rachmaninov, celebrates the enthusiasm of young dancers, and Annoni's *...wut...* uses the music of Kyle Dixon and Michael Stein to explore different unpleasantries. McNamara's *In Jitland: Detroit Redux,* a dance film with an original score by EMU music professor Howard Cass, follows a young wanderer at night. Rasul's *Doin' Jit in the Park!!* showcases Detroit Jit, a street dance form, usually performed to techno music, known for its lightning-quick footwork and deep connection to Detroit history and culture. Simmons performs "Glory" and "The Manson Trio" from Bob Fosse's *Pippin.* White's *Upstream Transaction* is an excerpt from his company's 2-year performance project grounded in the crises surrounding affordable access to clean water in Flint and Detroit. It's set to Detroit electronica musician Kyle Hall's "FACT x MoMA PS1." Wilkinson presents the Friends dance from her classical ballet choreography for Léo Delibes' *Coppélia. 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), EMU Quirk Theatre, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 (students with ID, $8) in advance at emutix.com and at the door. 487–2282.*

Urban Bush Women: University Musical Society. This NYC-based dance company, described by the *New York Times* as "committed, triple-threat performers who dance, sing, and act with a sometimes searing sense of truthfulness," performs ***Hair & Other Stories***, a work that infuses elements of the histories, cultures, and spiritual traditions of the African Diaspora into contemporary dance and music to interrogate race, gender, and economic inequality through the lens of physical appearance, including the cultural significance of African American women's hair. Q & A. *8 p.m., Power Center. Tickets $26–$52 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"The Explorers Club": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Cue This": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. See 5 Friday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Brian Scolaro: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 11 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

13 SATURDAY

★Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. *Jan. 13 & 20.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. *Note:* Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16–18 must submit a permission form. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (Jan. 13), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (Jan. 20), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free (metered parking at Matthaei). Preregistration required by phone or email. tgriffit@umich.edu, 647–8528.*

Huron Gun Collectors. *Jan. 13 & 14.* About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. Youth age 17 & under must be accompanied by an adult. *9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission $5 (members, $3; kids age 12 & under, free). (517) 605–0624.*

★"Be the Change: Stories and Crafts for First Steps in Social Justice": Ann Arbor District Library. Mindfulness instructor Grace Helms Kotre reads bell hooks' kids book *Skin Again* and leads a discussion of how and why skin color varies. Parent resources on race discussions available. For kids in grades K–5. *10–10:45 a.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.*

"Critters Up Close!": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 13 & 14.* Leslie Science & Nature Center staff show live **mammals.** Also, animal-oriented hands-on activities. *Note:* Saturday program includes a midday "Animal Naptime" break when the animals get tired. *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 1–4 p.m. (Sun.), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

Winter Science Series: Hudson Mills Activity Center. *Jan. 13 & 27.* Programs for kids ages 8–12 presented by Hudson Mills naturalist Mark Irish. *Jan. 13:* **"The Astronomy of It All."** Hands-on demonstration of why the earth has seasons. Craft activity follows. *Jan 27:* **"Aquatic Aces."** Demonstration, with a live American toad, of how aquatic animals survive winter. *10 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $7 per child; $20 for series. $10 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

★Remote-Controlled Car Racing: Washtenaw RC Raceway. *Jan. 13 & 27.* One of the largest regular gatherings of RC racers in the country features off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. *10:15 a.m.–midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. $17 to race. (517) 290–7128.*

★"Family Art Studio: The Line Comes Alive": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of drawings by Henri Matisse and his disciple, the late Ellsworth Kelly, that Kelly curated in 2014. Followed by an art activity led by local artist Nora Venturelli. For families with kids age 6 & up. A free **drop-in tour for adults** is offered at 2 p.m. on Jan. 14. *11 a.m.–1 p.m. and 2–4 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free; preregistration required by emailing umma-program-registration@umich.edu (include date & title of program in the subject line and indicate morning or afternoon session and how many adults & kids are in your group). 764–0395.*

★"Kids' Coding Hour!": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades 3–8 invited to build apps in BitsBox, a system that teaches kids to code. More experienced coders can bring their own project in their preferred coding language. Computers provided. No experience necessary. *1–2 p.m., AADL Downtown training center. Free. 327–4555.*

"Splash Day": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. A family-oriented afternoon of pool games and contests. Prizes. *1–4 p.m., Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. $5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, $4). 794–6234.*

★English Country Dance: Ann Arbor District Library. Representatives from the Ann Arbor Community for Traditional Music and Dance lead adults and teens in grades 6 & up in the basics of traditional country dance. No experience necessary. Wear comfortable clothes & smooth-soled shoes. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Modern Geometric Mobile": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for adults and teens in grades 6 & up. *2–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Felt Ball Fun!": Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Beth Battey shows how to make a felt ball using cotton roving, soap, and water. Supplies provided. For all ages. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327–8301.*

★Carrie Smith and Jeff Kass: Aunt Agatha's. These 2 popular writers with local ties discuss their new novels. NYC-based Smith, a 3-time Hopwood winner as a U-M undergrad, discusses the 3rd installment of her police procedural series featuring NYPD detective Claire Codella. Pioneer HS writing teacher Kass reads from his debut mystery, *Takedown,* about an Ann Arbor cop who must figure out why a grad student is murdered the night of the U-M/MSU football game. *2 p.m., Aunt Agatha's, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Free. 769–1114.*

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Ohio State. *4 p.m., Crisler Center. Ticket prices TBA at mgoblue.com/tickets/gmw-index.html. 764–0247.*

"Tool Zoo": Maker Works. *Dec. 30 and Jan. 13 & 27.* Shop members lead a tour of the shop and demonstrate tools, including a 3-D printer, a pewter casting machine, a laser cutter, a wood engraver, and a plasma steel cutter. Examples to take home. Kids must be accompanied by a parent. *4:30 & 5:30 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. $5 (family, $8). 222–4911.*

★Bluegrass Gospel Jam Session. Mark and Claudia Aills are joined by other local string musicians for a program of bluegrass and country gospel tunes. *6–8:30 p.m., Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. Free; donations accepted for Dexter Senior Center. 878–1078.*

34th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Dinner Ball: National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women. Dinner followed by dancing to music spun by a DJ. Evening attire. Also, a keynote address by Walsh College (Troy) management professor Lee Meadows on **"Whose Dream Is It Anyway!"** Proceeds benefit a NANBPW scholarship fund and community service projects. *6–11 p.m., Sheraton Hotel, 3200 Boardwalk. Tickets $60 in advance at aananbpwc.org. 717–7215.*

Andrew Anderson. An accomplished accompanist, chamber musician, and soloist, this veteran local pianist performs Beethoven's short piano sonata no. 24, which the composer was particularly fond of. The program also includes the late U-M music professor Ross Lee Finney's moody and dramatic *Narrative in Argument* and Cesar Franck's turbulent and brilliant Prelude, Chorale, and Fugue, as well as music by Liszt, Brahms, Bach, and Robert Helps. *7 p.m., Faber Piano Institute, 3042 Creek Dr. (off Packard just east of Platt). Donation. 665–7346.*

★Rebecca Biber: Bookbound. This local poet reads from ***Technical Solace,*** her new collection of poems that "explore the struggles of growing up, growing older, of being in solitude and with others, along with birds and history, children and dying, Supreme Court decisions, the Holocaust, and artichokes," says writer Alex Chambers. Light refreshments. Signing. *7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance Party: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Baltimore caller Susan Taylor leads to live music by the Stout Hearted String Band. Wear loose fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Preceded at 6 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass) and at 7 p.m. by a lesson for beginners. *7:30–10:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. $11 (members, $10; age 29 & under, $5). fjkarsch@umich.edu, 769–2133.*

Annual Collage Concert: U-M School of Music. U-M music students perform an hour of nonstop music in a wide range of contrasting styles. Classical, jazz, big band, vocal, and pop ensembles and soloists segue rapidly from one idiom to the next. One of the music school's most popular events. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $28 & $34 (students with ID, $12), in advance at tickets.smtd.umich.edu, the Michigan League Ticket Office, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Peter Madcat Ruth: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. World-renowned veteran local harmonica wiz whom Dave Brubeck once praised as one of the world's "great jazz soloists." He has a massive repertoire of blues, jazz, folk, and rock tunes, along with several fine originals and songs by other contemporary composers. Performing as a one-man band, Madcat sings and also plays guitar, ukulele, jaw harp, kalimba, pennywhistle, and more. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 665–0409.*

Ramona Collins: Kerrytown Concert House. Performance by this veteran Toledo jazz vocalist known for her soulful renditions of jazz and blues standards and obscurities. According to a *Cadence Magazine* review, she possesses "a strong, satiny voice with a lot of blues and soul seasoning and a very hip sense of time." With pianist Cliff Monear, bassist Jeff Pedraz, trumpeter Dwight Adams, and drummer Sean Dobbins. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"The Explorers Club": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 11 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Every Which Way: 66th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Program. See 12 Friday. 8 p.m.

Brian Scolaro: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 11 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

14 SUNDAY

★"Drawing for Kids": Ann Arbor District Library. *Jan. 14, 21, & 28.* Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a different directed drawing activity each week for kids in grades 1–5. *1–2 p.m., AADL Downtown meeting rm. (Jan. 14 & 21); AADL Pittsfield (Jan. 28). Free. 327–8301.*

galleries

Ann Arbor District Library, 343 S. Fifth Avenue. *Additive/Subtractive Works by Helen Gotlib & Dylan Strzynski* (Jan. 15–Feb. 25 in the multi-purpose rm. exhibit). Print drawings of the life cycle of flora by Gotlib and mixed media works by Strzynski addressing the relationship between poverty and the environment. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Over/Come(ing) (Jan. 13–Feb. 26 in the lower level display cases). Juliet Seignious's paintings inspired by congressman and civil rights icon John Lewis' graphic novel series, *March.* Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

2018 AIA Honors Award Exhibit (Jan. 13–Feb. 26 in the 3rd-floor exhibit). Photo panel display of the 25 winning projects designed by members of AIA's Huron Valley chapter. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. *Luminous Landscapes* (Jan. 12–Mar. 1). Paintings and photographs by local artist David Frankel. Reception Jan. 12, 6–8 p.m. Mon.–Thurs. 9–4 p.m. 794–6250.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *BFA Emergence '18* (Jan. 10–31). Works by students completing BFA degrees in the Great Lakes region. Reception Jan. 17, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

EMU University Art Gallery, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. *Faculty Exhibition* (Jan. 17–Feb. 14). Photography, painting, watercolor, print media, ceramics, graphic design, sculpture, fibers, metals, video, and mixed media by EMU faculty members. Reception Jan. 24, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. 487–1268.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Nature and Nurture* (Jan. 9–Feb. 4). Artwork by Ann Arbor Public Schools art teachers. Reception Jan. 10, 5–7 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, 202 S. Thayer St. *An Accidental Photographer: Seoul 1969* (Dec. 11–Jan. 12). Photographs by U-M alumna Margaret Condon Taylor chronicle ordinary life in the rapidly modernizing South Korean capital in 1969. *Of 72* (Jan. 11–Feb. 9). Mixed-media fabric work by Jamaican artist Ebony Patterson, who uses digital imagery, embroidery, rhinestones, bandanas, and floral appliqués to contemplate the inner lives of the victims of a deadly 2010 confrontation between a Kingston drug lord and police. *Pre-Fab/Post-Fab: Art in a Readymade Era* (Jan. 18–Feb. 23). Reception Jan. 18, 6 p.m. Mixed-media works critiquing postcapitalist society by young Detroit artists Heidi Barlow, Shaina Kasztelan, and Bailey Scieszka. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 936–3518.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *Red Circle: Designing Japan in Contemporary Posters* (Jan. 6–May 6). Exhibit of 3 renowned poster artists—Ikko Tanaka, Shigeo Fukuda, and Kazumasa Nagai—who in the 1980s revolutionized the way Japan represented itself to the world. Gallery talks and tours Jan. 21, 2–3 p.m. *Aftermath: Landscapes of Devastation* (Jan. 13–May 27). Photos of natural & man-made disasters and political unrest. Gallery talks and tours Jan. 28, 2–3 p.m. Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 764–0395.



***Two Trees and Distant Hillside,* from Jeffrey Clevenger's photo exhibition at the AADL until Jan. 10.**

U-M Michigan Union, 530 S. State. *Between Past and Future: Wang Qingsong 1999–2006* (Jan. 20–Feb. 20). Photographs critiquing the relentless globalization of China. Reception Jan. 24, 4 p.m. 763–5750.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *16+16* (Jan. 2–Feb. 4). Show pairing works by each of the gallery's sixteen members with work by an artist they admire. The art is the basis for a multimedia event on Jan 21 (see Up Front). Reception Jan. 5, 7–9 p.m. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs. noon–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

★**"Watercolor Snowflake Art": Ann Arbor District Library.** Art project for kids in grades preK–3. *1–2 p.m., AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Drawing for Adults": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 14, 21, & 28.* Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a different directed drawing activity each week. *3–5 p.m., AADL Downtown meeting rm. (Jan. 14 & 21); AADL Pittsfield (Jan. 28). Free. 327–8301.*

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *1–4 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 663–0262.*

★**EMU Honors Band: EMU Music Department.** Performance by this ensemble of top high school musicians from around the state, along with EMU music students. Program TBA. *2 p.m., Pease Auditorium, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

"Celebración!": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen conducts this local volunteer ensemble in Roger Nixon's dynamic *Fiesta del Pacifico,* Isaac Albéniz's *Feast Day in Seville,* Arturo Márquez's invigorating Danzon no. 2, Franco Cesarini's *Mexican Pictures,* Jaime Texidor's *Amparito Roca,* Copland's *El Salon Mexico,* and 2 works by Mark Camphouse in honor of MLK Day: *A Movement for Rosa* and *Homage to the Dream. 2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (seniors & students, $5; kids age 11 & under, free) in advance from band members & at mkt.com/aacb, and at the door. 478–7515.*

Doug Horn Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. This classic jazz and bebop ensemble—alto saxophonist/flutist Horn, bassist Paul Keller, and pianist Rick Roe—celebrate the release of their new album, *High Standards. 2 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $10). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Every Which Way: 66th Annual Faculty and Guest Artist Choreography Concert": EMU Dance Program. See 12 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Explorers Club": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 11 Thursday. 2 p.m.

St. Lawrence String Quartet: University Musical Society. This acclaimed Canadian chamber ensemble has been together for over 20 years, performing with what the *New York Times* calls "an almost disturbing intensity." Tonight's program, **"Haydn Mega-Concert,"** features all 6 of Haydn's so-called "sun" quartets, a compositional milestone that established the string quartet style for generations. In them, all four voices are equally important, resulting in a more emotionally direct music than the courtly tone of the Rococo period. With violinists Geoff Nuttall and Owen Dalby, violist Lesley Robertson, and cellist Christopher Constanza. Preceded at 2 p.m. in Rackham (Earl Lewis Rm.) by a lecture on the program by U-M musicology professor Steven Whiting. *Note:* there is a meal break from 5:20–7 p.m. Boxed dinners available (reservations required at ums.org/haydn). *3–8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $36–$60 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Faces of Faith": Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. Local religious leaders from 6 different traditions—Buddhism, Catholicism, Hinduism, Interfaith, Islam, Judaism—discuss the personal joys and the public frustrations of being part of their faith tradition. Also, small group discussions. *4–6 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 E. Liberty. $5 suggested donation. 424–1535.*

"Coloring with Cats": Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center. All age 12 & up invited to color while interacting with adoptable cats. Snacks, soda, and coloring supplies provided. *5:30–7:30 p.m., Tiny Lions, 5245 Jackson Rd. (ste. A1). $10. Preregistration recommended at tinylions.org/coloringwithcats. 661–3575.*

"Ann Arbor Community Sing": Ann Arbor Senior Center. All invited to join this monthly gathering to sing songs from the various branches of American folk music. *7–8:45 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $5. 794–6250.*

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam." *Jan. 14, 21, & 28.* Musicians of all ability levels invited to sing and play anything from classic rock, Motown, and blues to bluegrass, folk, and country. Singers and players of all acoustic instruments (strings, horns, and woodwinds) welcome. Led by local veteran musicians Bill Connors and Phil McMillion. The 2nd Sunday of each month features a focus song, followed by jamming. The 4th Sunday features an open mike for solo, duo, and trio performers, followed by jamming. Also, on Jan. 21, songwriters can try out their new work and get critiques. *7–9 p.m., U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. $5 for participants, spectators free. Preregistration required at Meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 998–9353.*

★**"Healing Justice, Waging Love: Remembering MLK and Ourselves": The Long Hairz Collective (U-M MLK Symposium).** An evening of song, spoken word, and hip-hop with this ensemble of artist-activists from the African American and Native American communities. Tonight's performers are hip-hop MCs Brian Babb (aka Peace be Free) and Will See, and Native American singer-songwriters Annie Humphrey, Joe Reilly, and Allison Radell. *7–9 p.m., U-M Residential College Keene Theater, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 764–5517.*

★**"8 Pointless Minutes: A Long Form Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre.** All invited to form groups to perform an 8-minute improv sketch. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free (pay-what-you-can for spectators). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

"Wonder Woman": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Dive-In Movie. All invited to bring an inner tube and float in Mack Pool for a family-oriented screening of Patty Jenkins' 2017 drama starring Gal Gadot as the iconic DC Comics superhero. *7:30 p.m., Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. $5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, $4). 794–6234.*

★**Caroline Helton, Matthew Bengtson, & Aaron Berofsky: U-M School of Music Faculty Recital.** Soprano Helton and fortepianist Bengtson perform song settings of Goethe's poetry by Schubert, Beethoven, and Mozart as well as their lesser-known contemporaries Carl Friedrich Zelter and Johann Friedrich Reichardt. Violinist Berofsky joins Bengtson in Mozart's Piano and Violin Sonata in B-flat major. *8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

15 MONDAY (MLK DAY)

★**"Annual Children & Youth Program": U-M MLK Symposium.** Parents can drop off kids in grades K–12 for a day of stories, discussions, skits, musical performances, and activities centered on Martin Luther King Jr. Lunch provided. Kids age 4 & under welcome if accompanied by an adult. *8:30 a.m.–3 p.m., U-M Modern Languages Bldg., 812 E. Washington. Free. Preregistration required before Jan. 10 at sites.google.com/a/umich.edu/mlk. 764–9567.*

★**"Say It Loud: Positive Propaganda": Scrap Box.** All invited to drop-in and make stencils and inspirational plaques using recycled materials. In honor of MLK Day. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Scrap Box, 581 State Cir. Free. 994–0012.*

★**Hill Harper: U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk on some aspect of MLK's legacy by this renowned actor and author of several best-selling books, most recently *Letters to an Incarcerated Brother: Encouragement, Hope, and Healing for Inmates and Their Loved Ones. 10–11:30 a.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 764–7522.*

★**"MLK Day Family Drop-In": Ann Arbor Art Center.** All invited to create a collage inspired by the 20th-century African American collage artist Romare Bearden. All ages welcome; kids must be accompanied by an adult. *10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994–8004.*

★**"Music Against Silence": U-M School of Music.** U-M carillonneur **Tiffany Ng** performs works by black jazz composers, works from the Civil Rights Movement, and the local premiere of Kalvert Nelson's 1973 *Carillon Dances.* Followed by Q&A in the belfry with performers and student music arrangers. *Noon, Burton Tower belfry, take elevator to the 8th floor & walk upstairs to the 10th floor (simulcast available on the 8th floor for those unable to take stairs). Free. 615–3204.*

★**"Moving Past Indecision to Action in Health Care Equity": U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk by **Adewale Troutman,** the renowned public health activist who is featured in the nationally televised PBS series: *Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick? Noon–1 p.m., Towsley Center Dow Auditorium, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. Free. 764–4414.*

★**MLK Day of Service: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** All invited to help remove invasive shrubs from **Barton Nature Area.** Dress in layers and wear shoes appropriate for snow and wet ground. Tools and know-how provided. Snacks. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. *1–3 p.m., meet in the Barton Dam parking lot, Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 996–3266.*

★**"1968 + 50: Unfinished Legacies of Dr. King's Last Year": U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies.** Visiting historians discuss the last year of MLK's life and his move toward a broad array of initiatives linking civil rights with antiwar, labor, and antipoverty campaigns. *1–3 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615–7400.*

Joy-Ann Reid: EMU MLK Day Celebration Keynote Lecture. This MSNBC national correspondent,



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Dragons Love Tacos
SUNDAY, JANUARY 28 | 1:30 PM
Dragons love all sorts of tacos–except spicy ones! When a boy throws his new dragon friends a spicy salsa taco party, red-hot trouble ensues. Based on the book by *New York Times* best-selling author Adam Rubin.
Best for grades K to 5.
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host of *AM Joy,* gives a talk on **"Live the Legacy: Look Back, Be Present, Move Forward."** *1–3:30 p.m., EMU Student Center Auditorium, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. Cost TBA. egold@emich.edu*

Beaumaris Ensemble: Jewish Community Center Afternoon Delights. This local chamber trio performs new works by contemporary composers and lesser-known classical works. Members: oboist Kaycee Thomas, cellist Daniel Thomas, and pianist Naki Sung Kripfgans. Program TBA. Preceded at 1 p.m. by dessert and socializing. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 in advance at a2so.org and at the door. 971–0990.*

★**"The Literature of Activism/The Activism of Literature": U-M MLK Symposium.** Panel discussion with U-M English postdoc Kyle Grady, U-M English professor Aida Levy-Hussen, U-M public health undergrad Halimat Olaniyan, and others TBA. *2–4 p.m., 2435 North Quad, 105 S. State. Free. 764–0409.*

★**"We Need Change NOW … Here's HOW": U-M MLK Symposium.** Ubiquitous TV political commentator **Karine Jean-Pierre,** who served as battleground states deputy director for President's Obama's 2012 re-election campaign, discusses MLK's legacy and the current state of activism. *2–4:30 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. Free. 764–7522.*

★**Rhythm Life Collective: Ann Arbor District Library MLK Day Event.** This Kalamazoo-based global drumming collective performs traditional music of West Africa, Cuba, the Caribbean, North Africa, and Brazil. Featuring Grand Rapids–based percussionist Kevin Jones. *2–3 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Shwan Martinbrough: U-M MLK Symposium.** This well-known comics artist discusses his work. *2:30–3:30 p.m., Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 647–9886.*

★**"Circle of Unity": U-M MLK Symposium.** All invited to listen to or join impromptu performances of songs and spoken word pieces inspired by Martin Luther King Jr. Also, performances by local singer-songwriter Joe Reilly and Detroit singer-guitarist Julie Beutel. Hot chocolate. *3–4:30 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. (586) 322–9414.*

★**"What They Did Not Want Martin Talking About: Martin Luther King's Thoughts On Militarism": U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk by representatives from Veterans for Peace. A similar event takes place tomorrow at the Ann Arbor District Library (see listing). *3–4:30 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Rm. Free. 662–0818.*

★**"Kinesiology and the Fierce Urgency of Now: Empowering Lives and Impacting Communities": U-M MLK Symposium.** A panel of U-M kinesiology faculty discuss the cultural roles of sport and other physical activity. *3:30–5 p.m., 3735 CCRB, 401 Washtenaw. Free. 647–3027.*

★**"Hidden Figures: Bringing Math, Physics, History, and Race to Hollywood": U-M MLK Symposium.** Morehouse College (Atlanta) math professor Rudy Horn discusses the history behind the 2017 movie about 3 African-American women mathematicians and engineers who played a key role in the 1960s NASA space program. *4–5 p.m., 1324 East Hall, 530 Church. Free. 764–4705.*

★**"Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America": U-M MLK Symposium.** Yale Law School constitutional law professor James Forman Jr., a former Washington, D.C. public defender, discusses his book. In 1997, Forman founded the Maya Angelou Public Charter School, an alternative school for dropouts and youth who had previously been arrested. Signing. *4–5:30 p.m., 1225 South Hall, 701 S. State. Free. 764–4705.*

★**"The Guild Poetry Showcase": U-M MLK Symposium.** Spoken word pioneer **Black Ice** headlines an evening of poetry readings by several award-winning International Writers Guild members, including **Bayan Founas, Justin Gordon, Candace Jackson, Mikhaella Norwood, Xiao Bin Pan, Darius Simpson, Micah Smith,** and **Mariah Smith.** *6–8 p.m., Rackham Amphitheater. Free. (269) 364–5576.*

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *6:45–9 p.m., Pittsfield Village Community Bldg., 2220 Pittsfield Blvd. (park on the street, or in the south lot). Free to visitors (annual dues for those who join). 994–4385.*

★**"Fiber Arts Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Jan. 15 & 29.* All invited to learn the basics of **knitting** (Jan. 15) and **crochet** (Jan. 29). Materials provided. Experienced fiber artists are invited to bring a project to work on. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Beyond the Hero and the Holiday": Ann Arbor District Library MLK Day Event.** Nationally acclaimed local storyteller **La'Ron Williams** presents a program of music and stories that celebrate the social justice movement. *7–8 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Heather Martin: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This Young Arts Alliance! founder discusses her work helping to establish opportunities for creative expression in the Michigan juvenile justice system. *7 p.m., AAWA Headquarters, 4484 Jackson Rd. (ste. 100). Free. annarborwomenartists@gmail.com*

★**"The Immortalists": Literati Bookstore.** Madison (WI) writer **Chloe Benjamin** discusses and reads from her new novel about the lives of 4 siblings who as children visited a psychic who claimed to know the day they would die. The story that ensues is an ambitious exploration of the shaping powers of beliefs and stories. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Michigan Botanical Club.** U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens staffer Lynn Kirkpatrick gives a photo-illustrated talk on her visits to botanical gardens around the world. *7:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647–7600.*

16 TUESDAY

★**"Who Gets to Define American Values?": U-M Wallace House.** *HuffPost* executive editor **Lydia Polgreen** discusses the role of a free press in a thriving democracy, with a focus on the current populist moment. *2–3:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 998–7666.*

★**"Money in Classical Jewish Law": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies.** Talk by University of British Columbia Jewish law and ethics professor Gregg Gardner. *4 p.m., 2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763–9047.*

★**"Pulling Apart or Hanging Together: Separatism and Nationalism in Catalonia, Scotland, and Northern Italy": U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies.** Panel discussion with U-M history and literature professors. *4–5:30 p.m., 1010 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Cute & Cuddly Winter Cross-Stitch": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults & teens in grades 6 & up invited to cross-stitch penguins, snowflakes, narwhals, and more. Patterns provided. All skill levels welcome. *6–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

"Understanding Cultural Dilemmas to Lead More Effectively": American Business Women's Association. Talk by EMU management lecturer Kimberly Barker. The program begins with networking and dinner. *6 p.m., Quarter Bistro, 300 S. Maple. $21 in advance by noon on Jan. 11 at abwa-maia.org/resform.html. mortime@umich.edu*

★**Seed Cleaning and Exchange: Wild Ones.** Demonstration of seed cleaning techniques, including ritual fire for milkweed. All invited to bring seeds to clean and exchange. Seeds available to take home. *6:45 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free; metered parking. 604–4674.*

★**Polka Jam Session.** All accordion players and other musicians invited to play polkas and waltzes and other ethnic and old-time music. *7–9 p.m., American Legion Hall, 44 Wabash St. (south off Main), Milan. Free. 529–3903.*

★**"Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Thoughts on Militarism: A Conversation with Veterans for Peace": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion with local Veterans for Peace members. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Weight Loss: Do Herbs Help?": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt, who has lost more than 100 pounds over 10 years. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required by phone or email. outreach@peoplesfood.coop, 994–4589.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *Jan. 16 & 30.* Club members show their projected images (Jan. 16) and prints (Jan. 30) on various topics, including this month's assignment, **"Arches."** On Jan. 16, member **Dietmar Haenchen,** an experienced nature and travel photographer, discusses **"Travel Photography in Colombia."** On Jan. 30, U-M American Studies doctoral student Kyle Frisina on **"At Home in the Rustbelt: The Photography of LaToya Ruby Frazier,"** a photographer who won a MacArthur "Genius" grant in 2015 for her book chronicling postindustrial decline and its effects on the African American community in Braddock, PA. *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School media center, 1655 Newport, Free. 327–4781.*

★**"GoGreenBlue! Renewable Energy for U": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Clean energy expert Craig Toepfer discusses his campaign to turn the U-M north campus into a global model for solar energy use. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 665–0248.*

★**Chamber Music Concert: U-M School of Music.** The ensemble of Baroque violinists **Sean Wang** and **Aaron Berofsky,** guitarist-harpsichordist **Joseph Gascho,** and viola da gambist **Richard Aaron** performs Baroque works by Uccellini, Bach, and Leclair. Wang is joined by clarinetist **Chad Burrow** and pianist **Amy I-Lin Cheng** in works by U-M faculty composers, including rags by William Bolcom, Bright Sheng's *Tibetan Dance,* and Evan Chambers' *Thorn and Flare. 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

17 WEDNESDAY

★**Sava Lelcaj Farah: AAUW-Ann Arbor.** This local restaurateur and entrepreneur discusses her career. Lunch available ($15, reservations required). *11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. (844) 973–6287.*

films

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327–8301.

Jan. 10: **"Resilience"** (James Redford, 2016). Documentary exploring the possibility that some medical conditions have their roots in childhood trauma. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch.

Jan. 25: **The 55th Ann Arbor Film Festival Tour.** Compilation of some of the best independent and experimental films from the 2017 edition of this internationally renowned festival. 7–9 p.m., AADL multipurpose room.

Ann Arbor Senior Center. $2 (members, free). 794–6250. 1320 Baldwin. 12:30–3 p.m.

Every Mon. except Jan. 1: **"Movie Matinee,"** a DVD screening with films TBA.

Fathom Events. 623–7469 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Ann Arbor 20). Tickets available in advance at fathomevents.com and at the door. Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter), different times.

Jan. 11: **"Alien Intrusion: Unmasking a Deception"** (Gary Bates, 2018). Documentary exploring UFO sightings and reported alien abductions. $14. 7 p.m.

Jan. 13 & 17: **"The Opera House"** (Susan Froemke, 2017). Documentary chronicling the stories of the Metropolitan Opera featuring rarely seen archival footage, stills, recent interviews, and a soundtrack of extraordinary Met performances over the past 50 years. $14. 12:55 p.m. (Jan. 13 & 17) & 6:30 p.m. (Jan. 17).

Jan. 14 & 16: **"The Treasure of the Sierra Madre"** (John Huston, 1948).. 70th anniversary screening of this gritty, taut Western about greed corrupting 3 unlikely prospectors. John Huston, Humphrey Bogart, Walter Huston, "no stinkin' badges." $8.25 (matinee) & $10.50 (evening) 2 & 7 p.m., Ann Arbor 20 only.

Jan. 18: **"Mary and the Witch's Flower"** (Hiromasa Yonebayashi; 2017). Japanese anime feature, adapted from Mary Stewart's *The Little Broomstick,* about a strange flower that grants a girl magic powers. Dubbed in English. $14 (seniors, $13; kids under 12, $12). 7 & 8 p.m., Ann Arbor 20 only.

Jan. 29: **"85: The Greatest Team in Pro Football History"** (Scott Prestin, 2016). Documentary about the Super Bowl champion 1985 Chicago Bears and their legacy among their fans, from Bill Murray to President Obama. $11.50 (seniors, $10.50; kids under 12, $9.50). 7:30 p.m., Ann Arbor 20 only.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Jan. 20: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; weekdays before 6 p.m., $7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Dec. 29: **"Jane"** (Brett Morgen, 2017). Jane Goodall documentary with a Philip Glass score.

Jan. 5: **"Show People"** (King Vidor, 1928). Silent comedy about a small-town girl who tries to make it in Hollywood. Stars Marion Davies and William Haines. Cameos by numerous silent-era film stars, including Charlie Chaplin, Douglas Fairbanks, and John Gilbert. With live organ accompaniment. Tickets $16 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & U.S. veterans, $13). 7 p.m.

Jan. 6: **"Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr Story"** (Alexandra Dean, 2017). Biopic of the Hollywood movie star cum inventor.

Jan. 12: **"The Post"** (Steven Spielberg, 2017). A presidential cover-up pushes the country's first female newspaper publisher and a hard-driving editor to join an unprecedented battle between journalism and government. Meryl Streep, Tom Hanks.

Jan. 15: **"Me, the 'Other'"** (Shidan Majidi & Dino Tsaousis, 2017). World premiere of a documentary chronicling the daily prejudices faced by a diverse group of students living in Washtenaw County, including an African American athletic coach, a Taiwanese gymnast, a Pakistani student leader, a 66-year-old transgender woman, an American-Peruvian-Japanese romance, a bisexual Republican, and a Mexican student on the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. 7 p.m.

Jan. 17: **"Class Divide"** (Marc Levin, 2016). Documentary about class division and gentrification in the NYC West Chelsea neighborhood and its effects on public housing. Followed by a discussion with Hyisheem Calier and Yasemin Smallens, who play central roles in the film. Moderated by journalist Peter Moskowitz, author of *How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood. Noon–2 p.m.*

Jan. 18: **"One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"** (Milos Forman, 1975). A feisty rebel faking mental illness in order to get off a prison work detail enters a mental hospital, where he galvanizes the beaten-down residents. Jack Nicholson, Louise Fletcher. Presented by U-M Center for the History of Medicine. Followed by discussion with U-M history of medicine professor Howard Markel.

Opens Jan. 19: **"Phantom Thread"** (Paul Thomas Anderson, 2017). Drama that stars Daniel Day-Lewis as a dressmaker in 1950s London whose life is disrupted by a young, strong-willed woman.

Jan. 24: **"Hare Krishna! The Mantra, the Movement, and the Swami Who Started It All"** (John Griesser, 2017). Documentary on the life of Indian swami Srila Prabhupada, who spearheaded the 1960s self-realization campaign now known as the Hare Krishna movement. Presented by the Bhakti Yoga Society, a U-M student organization. 7 p.m.

Opens Jan. 26: **"Faces Places"** (JR & Agnès Varda, 2017). Acclaimed documentary about the directors' journey through rural France. French, subtitles.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). 7 p.m.

Jan. 19: **"Rosenwald"** (Aviva Kempner, 2015). Documentary about longtime Sears president Julius Rosenwald and his efforts to fund 5,300 African American schools in the Jim Crow–era South. Discussion follows.

State Theater. For complete, updated schedule, see michtheater.org, annarborobserver.com, or call 761–8667. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; films before 6 p.m. & midnight movies, $8).

Opens Jan. 5: **"I, Tonya"** (Craig Gillespie, 2017). Biopic about figure skater Tonya Harding.

Opens Jan. 19: **"Call Me By Your Name"** (Luca Guadagnino, 2017). Romance set in 1983 Italy about a 17-year-old boy who begins a relationship with his father's male research assistant. Italian, French, & German; subtitles.

Opens Jan. 19: **"The Final Year"** (Greg Barker, 2017). Documentary about Obama's last year in office.

U-M Islamic Studies. FREE. 764–0351. 555 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. 7–8:30 p.m.

Jan. 24: **"New Muslim Cool"** (Jennifer Maytorena Taylor, 2009). Documentary about a Puerto Rican rapper who stops dealing drugs, converts to Islam, and moves to Pittsburgh to start a new religious community.

U-M Nam Center for Korean Studies. Screenings of Korean films. Korean, subtitles. 764–1825. FREE. Michigan Theater, 1 p.m.

Jan. 13: **"A Taxi Driver"** (Jang Hoon, 2017). Historical drama about a widowed father and taxi driver who takes a German reporter from Seoul to Gwangju to cover the 1980 uprising.

Jan. 20: **"On the Beach at Night Alone"** (Hong Sangsoo, 2017). Drama about an actor pondering her relationship with a married man that's seen as a reflection of an affair between Hong and star Kim Min-hee.

Jan. 27: **"Anarchist from Colony"** (Lee Joon-ik, 2017). Biopic about Park Yeol, founder of the anarchist organization Black Wave, who attempted to assassinate Japanese crown prince Hirohito during the Japanese colonial period.

★**Noon Lectures: U-M Confucius Institute.** *Jan 17:* **"Exploring Parallel Engagements in the Contemporary Chinese Art World."** Talk by art historian Zhang Fang. *Jan. 31:* **"Things Endure While We Face Away: Tao Yuanming on Being Himself."** Lecture about this reclusive poet by Indiana University religious studies professor Michael Ing. *12–1 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Rm. Free. 936–6099.*

★**"Christology and Culture: Armenian Theological and Historical Sources as Social Theory": U-M Armenian Studies Program.** Talk by U-M Manoogian fellow Christopher Sheklian. *4–5:30 p.m., 555 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–7274.*

★**"Winter/Outdoor Robotics": Michigan Robot Club.** Club members discuss robots that can handle the outdoors in winter. Also, a show-and-tell; nonmembers invited to bring their own creations to show. *6–8:30 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. Free. mirobotclub.com*

★**"Exotic Woods and Ethereal Exudates": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd, creator of the award-winning smell and taste blog Glass Petal Smoke, discusses, with samples, the appeal of woody and balsamic perfumes, which have their origins in incense, the art that is the mother of perfumery. *6–8:45 p.m., AADL Downtown meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.*

MOASH 10th Anniversary Celebration Fundraiser: Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health. Catered food, beverages, a DJ, and giveaways. Also, talks by MOASH board members and others and a screening of a video about the organization. *7–9 p.m., Cobblestone Farm Barn, 2781 Packard. Tickets $100 in advance at bit.ly/MOASH-party10. info@moash.org, 717–8744.*

★**"The Cataracts": Literati Bookstore.** U-M English lecturer **Ray McDaniel** discusses and reads from his new collection of poems that U-M creative writing professor Linda Gregerson calls "a penetrating inquiry into the physics, the metaphysics, and the brutal socioeconomics of sight." *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss ***Bread & Oil: Majorcan Culture's Last Stand,*** Tomás Graves' exploration of Mediterranean culinary staples that have remained essentially unchanged since Roman times. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**"Birding at the End of the World: Patagonia, Tierra del Fuego, and Isla de los Estados": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Retired U-M physics professor Len Sander, an avid world-traveling birder, gives a slide-illustrated talk on his trip to the southern tip of South America, including viewings of Andean condors (the largest flying bird in the world), rheas, and penguins. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 677–3275.*

"Test Batch": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Performances by new local improv groups. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. $5. info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.*

★**University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music.** Oriol Sans conducts this ensemble of music majors in a program highlighted by Beethoven's 8th Symphony. Noted for its unexpected turns, exciting modulations, and creative instrumentation, it was the composer's favorite. Also, Strauss's *Rosenkavalier Suite.* Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a lecture on the program. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Imani Winds: U-M School of Music.** This adventurous Grammy-nominated African American wind quintet from New York is known for exploring the links between European, African, and American musical traditions. Tonight they're joined by U-M students in a program in honor of MLK. *8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615–3204.*

TMT Trio: Kerrytown Concert House. This avant-jazz trio—Canadian pianist Cat Toren, NYC tenor saxophonist Angela Morris, and Cleveland drummer Anthony Taddeo—is a staple of the Brooklyn progressive jazz scene whose arrangements showcase the multifaceted character of the piano. Toren won "Instrumental Album of the Year" at the 2013 JUNO awards with her quintet Pugs and Crows. TMT recently released their debut album, *Star Ballad. 8 p.m., $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Underground Railroad Game": Ars Nova (University Musical Society). *Jan. 17–21.* Philadelphia-based writer-performers Jennifer Kidwell & Scott Sheppard star as 5th grade teachers whose interactive unit on the Civil War involves a "capture the slave" role-playing game that spirals out of control. Acclaimed for its ability to engage and discomfit audiences, this drama recently won an Obie for best new American theater work. "The chirpy satire of a

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Wednesday, February 28
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Wild Swan Theater, 10:00 - 11:00 AM







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curriculum that blithely turns historical horror into a playful contest is spot on," notes the *New Yorker* review. "It's wildly entertaining." *7:30 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), U-M Walgreen Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin. Tickets $35–$40 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

18 THURSDAY

★**"Preschool Hike: Life in a Winter Field": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads preschoolers, accompanied by a caregiver, on a hike to learn about what's going on in the seemingly lifeless winter fields. In case of snow, a story about winter survival. *10–11 a.m., County Farm Park Pollinator Garden, 2230 Platt. Free; preregistration required at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. 971–6337.*

★**"Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color": U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk by Barnard Center for Research on Women researcher-in-residence Andrea Ritchie. *Noon–1 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library, enter from the Diag Free. 647–9394.*

★**"Journalism Is Dead: Long Live Journalism": Jewish Community Center 3rd Thursday @ the J.** Two contributing editors to the new local e-newsletter The Annthology—Jim McBee & Demond Johnson—discuss the rise of new journalistic venues as newspapers become obsolete. *Noon–1 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. Free. Preregistration required. 971–0990.*

★**"Clarinet and Piano": First Baptist Church Coffee Break Concert Series.** Furman University (SC) clarinet professor **Cecilia Kang** (a U-M grad) is joined by Louisiana State University piano professor **Ana Maria** in a program of 20th- and 21st-century works, including Darius Milhaud's *Caprice, per clarinetto e pianoforte,* U-M grad Theresa Martin's *Paragon for Clarinet and Piano,* Gerald Finzi's *Five Bagatelles,* MSU piano professor David Biedenbender's Sonata, and Astor Piazzolla's *Histoire du Tango. 12:15 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663–9376.*

Ikebana International. An ikebana instructor TBA shows participants how to make a seasonal arrangement using this Japanese art of flower arranging. *1–2:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens rm. 125, 1800 N. Dixboro. $20 materials fee; metered parking. Preregistration required. a2ikebana@gmail.com*

★**"Getting to Know You": International Neighbors.** All area women invited to the first installment of a year-long celebration of the organization's 60th anniversary with icebreaker activities and highlights of the organization's first 5 years. Socializing, refreshments. Child care available for kids 5 & under. *1–2:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. (313) 815–0413.*

★**"No Safety Net": U-M MLK Symposium.** A conversation about the role of theater in promoting social justice with the acclaimed Jamaican poet and playwright **Claudia Rankine** and HowlRound online theater commons director and ArtsEmerson (Boston) artistic director **P. Carl.** They are currently collaborating on the world premiere of Rankine's play *The White Card. 3–4:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 764–3903.*

★**"A Truth Universally Acknowledged: Mapping the World of Jane Austen": U-M Clark Library.** Display of maps of Britain from Jane Austen's lifetime. *4–7 p.m., U-M Hatcher Library 2nd floor, enter from the Diag. Free. 647–0646.*

★**"White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Nation's Divide": U-M Human Rights Center Distinguished Lecture.** Talk by Emory University African American Studies professor Carol Anderson. *4–5:30 p.m., 1010 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 615–8482.*

★**"UMjobs.org": Ann Arbor District Library.** A U-M Human Resources specialist discusses how to search and apply for U-M jobs. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown training center. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Nerd Nite Ann Arbor: Ann Arbor District Library.** Popular monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at annarbor.nerdnite.com) who give fun yet informative talks, 18–21 minutes long, about topics that interest them, from nanoparticles to the science of the Simpsons and the genealogy of Godzilla. *7–9:30 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Underwater Finds of Michigan": Michigan Archaeological Society.** Talk by The Wright View (Dexter) underwater search operation owner Daryl Wright. *7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. Free. 764–9304.*

"Underground Railroad Game": Ars Nova (University Musical Society). See 17 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., Jan. 18–Mar. 10.* Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Purple Rose founder Jeff Daniels' heartfelt drama about 2 Flint couples struggling to hold onto their faith in the American Dream while they endure the diminished prospects of their once prosperous city. Stars Cassaundra Freeman, Lynch Travis, Rhiannon Ragland, & David Bendena. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed., Sat., & Feb. 2 & 23), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $30 (Wed.), $27 (Thurs.), $41 (Fri. eve. & weekend matinees), $46 (Sat. eve.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org and by phone, and (if available) at the door. Discounts available for students, seniors, teachers, military personnel, and groups. 433–7673.*

Dwayne Kennedy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 18–20.* This Chicago comic is a ubiquitous presence on cable TV who's known for his piercing, keen-witted takes on a wide range of social, cultural, and geopolitical matters. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $10 (Thurs.) & $13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $12 (Thurs.) & $15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

Converge String Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. This U-M student ensemble plays works by local composer Bill Wandel, who accompanies them on piano. With violinists Bram Margoles and Malhar Kute, violist Ryan McDonald, and cellist Hanna Rumora. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $10–$25 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

19 FRIDAY

★**"The Other America: Still Separate. Still Unequal.": U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.** Panel discussion with scholars and activists from around the country on different manifestations of racial equality experienced by African Americans. Breakfast & lunch provided. *8 a.m.–5 p.m., Michigan Union Kuenzel Room. Free. Preregistration required at eventbrite.com/e/the-other-america-still-separate-still-unequal-tickets-38081456662. hakeemjj@umich.edu; stvmoore@umich.edu*

★**"Kinderconcert: Music and Motion": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra violist Jacqueline Hanson lead kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult) in a program that includes storytelling and dancing to live music. Participants also learn about the instruments. Accompanist is U-M music faculty pianist Kathryn Goodson. *10–10:30 & 11–11:30 a.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★**U-M Center for Southeast Asian Studies Lecture Series.** *Jan. 19 & 26.* Talks by visiting scholars. *Jan. 19:* **"#Refuse to Forget, #Remember 65: Millennials and Affective Engagement with New Order Violence."** MSU anthropology professor Elizabeth Drexler discusses millennials' responses to unresolved cases of authoritarian violence during Indonesia's New Order (1966–1998). *Jan. 26:* Macalester College (St. Paul) religious studies professor Erik Davis on **"Past Lives Present, Tense: Past Life Memory in Contemporary Cambodia."** *Noon, 555 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764–0352.*

★**"After Diaspora, Beyond Citizenship: Articulating 'Blackness' as a Universal Claim": U-M Anthropology Department Rappaport Lecture Series.** Talk by U-M anthropology professor Damani Partridge. Part of a series of 4 lectures on the relationships between the European Enlightenment, Holocaust memory, & contemporary democratic participation. *3–5 p.m., Rackham Assembly Hall. Free. 764–7274.*

★**"Advocacy in Action: This Is Our Work": U-M MLK Symposium.** Panel discussion with Equality Michigan Action network executive director Steph White, former U-M School for Environment & Sustainability alumni relations assistant director Nicole Ver Kullen, motivational speaker William Hung, a former *American Idol* contestant whose off-key singing got him accused of catering to stereotypes about Asians. *3–4:30 p.m., UMMA Stern Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 763–6518.*

★**"Fix-It Friday": Maker Works.** All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, whatever. Maker Works members and staff are on hand to help fix things and offer advice. (Note: Repairs not guaranteed.) *4–6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. Free. 222–4911.*

"Cheeses to Melt For: Fondue & Raclette": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery staff discusses and offers taste samples of different varieties of fondue and *raclette*, another popular Swiss melted cheese dish. *6–8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $35. Reservations required. 929–0500.*

★**"Notes on a Virginia Statehouse: Architecture and Race in Jefferson's America": U-M MLK Symposium.** Talk by Mabel O. Wilson, a Columbia University architecture professor who is currently

poetry

Jane Hirshfield

Precision and mystery



CURT RICHTER

In Jane Hirshfield's poetry there is an unmistakable conjunction of precision and mystery. The precision is both in her observations and in her careful choice of language to record them—her poems feel as if every word, every line break, every comma, has been weighed and reweighed. Yet there is a mystery in them, too. Though it defies easy summary, it pushes us, and possibly even her, into new imaginative spaces. For instance, here in its entirety is one of my favorite Hirshfield poems, "My Species," from her most recent collection, *The Beauty:*

even
a small purple artichoke
boiled
in its own bittered
and darkening
waters
grows tender,
grows tender and sweet

patience, I think,
my species

keep testing the spiny leaves

the spiny heart

There is the small domestic detail that feels exact and true. And then there is that extension into something larger that begins with "patience." But what are we, the "species," supposed to make of this? The heart is the heart of the artichoke, but it is clearly something else as well. My heart? Your heart? And if you read these thirty words aloud, they produce a kind of music. Some of it comes from the repetition in a small space, but that doesn't explain it all.

We don't need it explained. It is enough to let the poem do its work on us. Hirshfield is a practicing Buddhist, one of the talking heads on the award-winning PBS show *The Buddha* back in 2010. She has also written a couple of wonderfully clear books about writing poems, called *Nine Gates* and *Ten Windows,* that give glimpses of the work, the education, and the dedication that has gone into this life of poetry. One of the few contemporary poets who has not chosen a life in academia, Hirshfield has devoted herself to her art, and we can only imagine what that devotion has cost her.

Even the title of her most recent collection, *The Beauty,* makes a jump most intellectuals and artists are reluctant to make these days. *The* beauty implies that there is one, a definite, even approachable beauty that we would recognize once we saw it. I doubt that Hirshfield would make any claims of having found the one beauty, but her work is shaped by the search for it. This book ends with a poem that seems to be about numbers but then goes somewhere different:

I wanted my fate to be human.

Like a perfume
that does not choose the direction it travels,
that cannot be straight or crooked, kept out
or kept.

Jane Hirshfield reads from *The Beauty* and from more recent work at UMMA on January 25.

—Keith Taylor

working on a book exploring how slavery influenced early American civic architecture. *6–7:30 p.m., 2104 Art & Architecture, 2000 Bonisteel. Free. 763–6518.*

★"The Forgetting Tree: A Rememory": Literati Bookstore. University of Washington creative writing professor **Rae Paris** discusses and reads from her new collection of poems on familial and historical themes exploring the nexus among narrative, power, memory, and freedom. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by 2 U-M creative writing grad students, fiction writer **Sam Krowchenko** and poet **Kyle Hunt.** *7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"FutureStars 2018": Pioneer High School. *Jan. 19, 20, & 27 (different programs).* AAPS high school students perform 4 different talent shows. The judges and the audience determine the winners, who compete in the Jan. 27 finale. This is a very popular show. *Note:* The 9:30 p.m. shows are open only to students. *7 & 9:30 p.m. (Jan. 19 & 20) & 7:30 p.m. (Jan. 27), PHS Schreiber Auditorium, 601 W. Stadium at Main. Tickets $10 on Jan. 19 & 20 & $15 (students, seniors age 65 & over, $10) on Jan. 27 in advance at showtix4u.com and at the door. ptguild.org, 994–2191.*

★"Poetry of Nature and Spirit": Michigan Friends Center. All invited to join a discussion of poems by Mary Oliver, Wendell Berry, Gary Snyder, and other writers whose work finds spiritual renewal in nature. Participants invited to bring favorite poems. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Friends Center, 7748 Clarks Lake Rd., Chelsea. Free; donations welcome. 475–1892.*

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

★U-M Piano Department & Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra: U-M School of Music. The AASO performs piano concertos, with U-M grad student soloists. Program: Beethoven's Piano Concerto nos. 3 & 4, Ravel's Concerto in G Major, and Prokofiev's Piano Concerto no. 3. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.*

"The Enchanted Escape": Out Loud Chorus. *Jan. 19 & 20.* Scott Walters directs this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in a program of songs celebrating the mysterious and the marvelous, including "Xanadu," "O Magnum Mysterium," "Jabberwocky," "Sih'r Kah'laq," and more. With pianist Josh Marzan. *8 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $18 (students & seniors, $15; unemployed people & kids under 4, free) in advance at olconline.org, Common Language Books, & from Out Loud members, $20 at the door.*

David Vaughan: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). This multi-instrumentalist and vocalist, who's also the FUMC music director, presents an eclectic program of gospel, early 20th century pop music, and jazz. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd, $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 662–4536, 665–8558.*

"Underground Railroad Game": Ars Nova (University Musical Society). See 17 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Cue This": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. See 5 Friday. 8 & 10 p.m.

Dwayne Kennedy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 18 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

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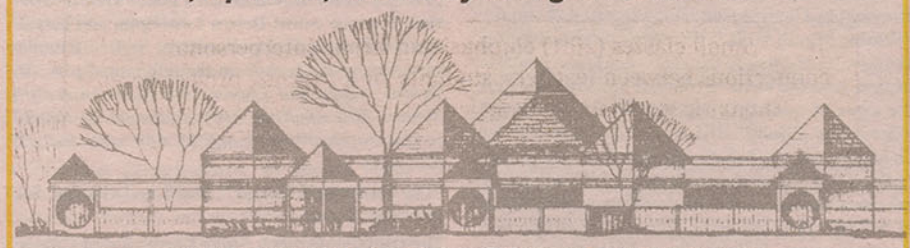
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20 SATURDAY

8th Annual Ann Arbor City Dodgeball Tournament: Skyline High School Crew Team Fundraiser. All adults and kids in 6th grade and above invited to form co-ed teams of 7–10 players to compete in round-robin and elimination tournaments. Prizes for top teams in each of 3 divisions (youth in grades 6–8, high school, and open adult), and awards for best costume in each division. All teams in high school and adult divisions must start at least 2 females. Food & beverage concessions. *8–10 a.m. (youth), 10:45 a.m.–1:45 p.m. (high school), & 2:30–5:30 p.m. (adult), Skyline, 2552 N. Maple Rd. $100 per team. Preregistration for teams (limited to 20 middle school, 30 high school & adult teams) required by 6 p.m. on Jan. 19 at annarbordodgeball.com. dodgeball@skylinecrew.com*

★**"Annual Winter Stonefly Search": Huron River Watershed Council.** All invited to join a watershed-wide hunt for these elusive river insects, which are active only in winter when fish are sluggish. Wear warm clothes. (You will not go into the water.) Children must be accompanied by an adult. *9 a.m.–1 p.m. and 10:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. (choose one session), begin at the NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. Preregistration required by Jan. 17 at hrwc.org/volunteer/stonefly. jfrenzel@hrwc.org, 769–5123.*

★**"A New Era: A Time of Fulfillment": Ann Arbor Aglow Lighthouse.** Screening of this DVD of a talk by Christian writer and speaker Graham Cooke. Refreshments. *9:30 a.m.–noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. (248) 437–9277.*

★**Winter Hikes: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** *Jan. 20: (10 a.m.–noon):* **"Winter Marsh Walk."** WCPARC naturalist Kelsey Dehring leads a trek to the park's cordgrass marsh to explore how the wetland changes in winter and look for signs of mink and coyote. *Jan. 21 (1–3 p.m.):* **"Snowshoe Clinic."** REI snowshoe specialists are on hand to educate those interested about snowshoes. Followed by a snowshoe hike led by WCPARC naturalists. A limited number of showshoe pairs available to borrow; preregistration required at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. *Different times, Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings. Free. $6 vehicle entry fee. 971–6337.*

★**"Sensory Storytime": Ann Arbor District Library.** A "sensory friendly" event for kids ages 3–7 with developmental disabilities. Includes 20 minutes of interactive stories & movement, followed by 40 minutes of free play. *10–11 a.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Plastics & Looking Out for Wildlife": Ecology Center of Ann Arbor.** All invited to use a plastic or plastic-alternative container to make feeder or shelter for backyard wildlife. *10 a.m.–noon, AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327–8301.*

"Pop-Up Makerspace": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 20 & 21.* All invited to try a hands-on engineering activity. This month's challenge: **paper engineering.** *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & noon–4 p.m. (Sun.), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★**Death Café.** All invited to join a frank conversation about death led by participants. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush and Diana Cramer. Tea & cake served. *10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395–9660.*

★**"Sewing Lab": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local sewing expert Amber Adams-Fall helps adults and teens in grade 6 & up sew a stuffed whale out of recycled denim. *Noon–3:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration: U-M Turner Senior Center.** Talk by Bethel AME Church pastor Mashod Evans. Also, live music and food. *1–3:30 p.m., Bethel AME Church, 900 John A. Woods Dr. Free. Preregistration required at 998–9353.*

★**"Stenciled Watercolors": Ann Arbor District Library.** Art project for adults and teens in grades 6 & up. No experience necessary. *2–3 p.m., AADL Traverwood. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Apple Showcase": MacTechnics/Ann Arbor District Library.** A Briarwood Apple Store staffer discusses and demonstrates new features of the latest Apple products. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.*

"FutureStars 2018": Pioneer High School. See 19 Friday. 7 & 9:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Marlin Whitaker calls to music by the Time Travelers. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *7:30–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $10 (members, $7; students, $5). 476–4650.*

"Winter Stargazing": Leslie Science and Nature Center. University Lowbrow Astronomers member Brian Ottum presents large-screen projections of images of the moon, stars, and nebulae via live-feed from Dark Sky New Mexico, an observatory that provides Ottum with remote internet access. If weather conditions don't permit that, he shows his best pictures and videos from 2017. Popcorn, juice, and soda provided. For ages 13 & up. *7:30–9 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $5. 997–1553.*

"Trivia with Cats": Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center. All age 18 & older invited to play trivia. Also, drinks, popcorn, and a chance to cuddle with adoptable cats. Admission includes 2 beer and wine tickets (age 21 & over only). Bring your own non-alcoholic beverages, if you wish. *7:30–9:30 p.m. (doors open at 7:15 p.m.), Tiny Lions, 5245 Jackson Rd. (ste. A1). $15. Preregistration available at tinylions.org/trivia. 661–3575.*

★**"Tell Me Everything: Music and Conversation with Julia Wolfe": U-M Contemporary Directions Ensemble.** This adventurous ensemble of music majors performs works by 2015 Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Wolfe, whose work draws inspiration from folk, classical, and rock music. Also, CDE artistic advisor Roshanne Etezady interviews Wolfe about her compositional process. *8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Hankinson Rehearsal Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

"The Musical Legacy of Naples": L'Invenzione (Academy of Early Music). This quintet of Michigan musicians performs concertos and sonatas by Alessandro Scarlatti, Francesco Mancini, Giovanni Battista Mele, Roberto Valentini, and Nicola Fiorenza. With recorder player **Eloy Cortinez,** Baroque violinists **Mary Riccardi** and **Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos,** Baroque cellist **Debra Lonergan,** and harpsichordist **Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra.** At 7:15 p.m. the musicians give a lecture on the program. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. $30 (seniors, $25; students, $10) in advance by Jan. 12 at Academyofearlymusic.org; $5 more after Jan. 12. 228–4338.*

"The Enchanted Escape": Out Loud Chorus. See 19 Friday. 8 p.m.

The Oblivion Project: Stone Chalet Event Center. This innovative Cleveland-based chamber orchestra performs some of Astor Piazzolla's sultry and dark "nuevo tango" works, which assimilate folk idioms to a modern sensibility. *8 p.m., Stone Chalet, 1917 Washtenaw. Tickets $15 & $25 (students, $5) in advance at events.stonechalet.com/tickets & at the door. 417–7223.*

"Apple Blossoms": Comic Opera Guild. *Jan. 20 & 21.* COG founder Tom Petiet directs this veteran local company in a concert production of Fritz Kreisler and Victor Jacobi's popular 1919 operetta that originally included up-and-comer Fred Astaire. A young couple is forced to get married, but their determination not to fall in love with each other is tested when they attend a masked ball. Accompanied by a 16-member chorus conducted by David Troiano. This production is expected to yield the first ever complete recording of the show. Cast: Amanda Xydis, Kate Moss, Noelle Jacquez, Anne Bauman, Claire Agresta, Carly LaForest, Shannon Watts, Darius Gillard, Geoff Kelm, Bob Douglas, Shawn Slivinski, and George Valenta. *8 p.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sun.), Concordia University Kreft Center Black Box Theater, 4090 Geddes. Freewill donation. 973–3264.*

"Underground Railroad Game": Ars Nova (University Musical Society). See 17 Wednesday. 2 & 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Dwayne Kennedy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 18 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

21 SUNDAY

★**"Adventures Down the Rabbit Hole": Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild.** Talk by Raspberry Rabbits (Wilmington, NC) quilt shop owner Michelle May. Also, sale of patterns and supplies. The program begins with a brief business meeting. *9:15 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. $10 (members, free). programs@gaaqg.com*

"Migration Madness": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Kids ages 5–12 & their families invited to explore bird habitats and behavior by making migratory maps and interacting with the center's raptors to learn how to identify different species. *10–11:30 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. Tickets $8 (members, $7) per person & $30 (members, $25) per family. Preregistration required at leslienc.org or 997–1553.*

"Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Collector's Show": Rerun Records. Popular fair with more than 50 dealers from a half dozen states selling rare and collectible used records and CDs, as well as hard-to-find new releases. Includes every popular music genre, along with rock music books, rock videos, posters, and assorted popular culture memorabilia. Food and beverages for sale. Patrons may bring in a small number of records to sell. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. $3 admission (children age 10 & under, free). For information or to reserve a dealer table, contact Rod Branham at 604–2540.*

"Brewing Methods": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff demonstrate and discuss 6–8 different ways to brew coffee, from filter drip to syphon pot. *Noon–2 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. Reservations required. 929–6060.*

★**"12th Annual Worst Day of the Year Ride": Wheels in Motion Cycle and Fitness.** All invited to join rides of 40, 20, 16, and 12 miles around Ann Arbor. Also, an "Abominable Snow Man" mountain bike ride, dependent on trail conditions. All rides end at Conor O'Neill's (attended bike parking). Hot soup, prizes, and giveaways. Helmets required. *12:30 p.m. (40-mile ride), 1 p.m. (20-mile ride & mountain bike ride), 1:30 p.m. (16-mile ride), & 2 p.m. (12-mile ride), meet at the Farmers Market in Kerrytown. Reservations requested at wheelsinmotion.us. Free. 971–2121.*

"Romeo and Juliet": Fathom Events. Live broadcast from Moscow of the Bolshoi Ballet production of former Bolshoi artistic director Alexei Ratmansky's detailed, dramatically urgent ballet adapted from Shakespeare's romantic tragedy for Profofiev's cinematic score. *12:55 p.m., Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 + IMAX (4100 Carpenter). Tickets $17 in advance at fathomevents.com/events/bolshoi1718-romeo-and-juliet?date=2018–01–21 and at the door. 827–2863 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Ann Arbor 20).*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** Music Together teacher Dianne Dudley leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and dancing. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Woody Plant ID in Winter": Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** All invited to join a walk through **Bird Hills Nature Area** to learn how to identify leafless trees by twigs, bark, and habitat. Dress in layers and wear shoes appropriate for potentially slick trails. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. *1–3 p.m., meet in the Barton Dam parking lot, Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 996–3266.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. Drake Meadow calls dances suitable for kids accompanied by adults. With live music by Donna Baird and Betsy Foote. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. $12 per family (members, free). 769–1052.*

"Live from Michigan: Reptiles & Amphibians": Waterloo Natural History Association. Representatives from Nature Discovery (Williamston) present a variety of native reptiles and amphibians, some of which can be handled by participants. *2–3 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot, Bush Rd., Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Preregistration required. $11 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**"Friends in Song and Story": Ann Arbor District Library.** Family-friendly program featuring AADL storyteller Laura Pershin Raynor and Gemily, the combination of Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits of the acoustic duo Gemini and San's daughter Emily. *2–2:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose rm. (lower level). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Red Circle: Designing Japan in Contemporary Posters": UMMA.** Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of 1980s Japanese graphic design posters that were meant to change Japan's global image. The exhibit also includes works by Paul Rand, a graphic designer who created the IBM THINK promotional campaign that turned the letters of its logo into pictures. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Underground Railroad Game": Ars Nova (University Musical Society). See 17 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Hot from the Oven: Zingerman's Bakehouse Cookbook!": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor District Library.** Zingerman's Bakehouse co-owners Frank Carollo and Amy Emberling discuss their new cookbook, which features 65 of their most popular recipes. *3–5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Tom Grace: Nicola's Books.** This bestselling novelist reads from ***Undeniable,*** the 6th thriller in his series about a former Navy SEAL who this time investigates a high-level paternity scam that involves his own father. Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"Beethoven & Brahms: Tragedy & Triumph": Ann Arbor Camerata (First United Methodist Church Music & Arts Downtown Series). U-M conducting grad student Jotaro Nakano directs this local chamber orchestra in Beethoven's Overture to *Egmont,* Goethe's play about the arrest and execution of a Flemish aristocrat during the Spanish Inquisition, and Brahm's Symphony no. 1 in C Minor, dubbed "Beethoven's 10th" for its melodic similarities to the *Ode to Joy. 3 p.m., FUMC, 120 S. State. Donation. 662–4536.*

"Apple Blossoms": Comic Opera Guild. See 20 Saturday. 3 p.m.

★**U-M Life Sciences Orchestra.** Chelsea Gallo conducts this ensemble of musicians from the U-M medical and life sciences staff in works by Weber, Beethoven, and Shostakovich. Preceded at 3:15 p.m. by a lecture on the program by Gallo. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 936-ARTS.*

"Uncle Vanya": University Musical Society. Taped broadcast of the Vakhtangov Theater (Moscow) production of this Chekhov masterpiece, a richly varied ensemble piece about the search for happiness—from love, achievement, or nature—at various stages of life. The *Independent* (U.K.) praises director Rimas Tuminas's "sparsely junky non-naturalistic design" for highlighting "a kind of Expressionist slapstick that's calculated to show how listless despair and manic hilarity can be flip-sides of the same coin." Russian, subtitles. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $18–$22 in advance at ums.org, the Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

22 MONDAY

★**Weekly Rehearsal: Women's Chamber Chorus.** *Every Mon., Jan. 22–Apr. 30.* All invited to join this independent 30-member local women's chorus to sing everything from Bach and Hungarian folk songs to madrigals and pop tunes. David Perample directs. *10–11:30 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free to visitors ($125 per semester dues for those who join). 665–9271.*

★**"Interpreting Islam in China": U-M Islamic Studies Program.** Talk by University of Nebraska-Omaha religious studies professor Kristian Petersen. *4–5:30 p.m., 555 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.*

★**"Cooking 101: How to Shop on a Budget": Ann Arbor District Library.** People's Food Co-op head baker Keegan Rodgers discusses how to shop well on a budget, including meal plans, grocery lists, and how to maximize the use of ingredients and minimize food waste. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Re-Imagining Mental Health Services for American Indian Communities: Centering Indigenous Perspectives": U-M Psychology Department.** Talk by U-M psychology professor Joe Gone. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor District Library Downtown Branch, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 647–3924.*

★**"FRAME: A Salon Series on Visual Art, Performance, and Identity": U-M MLK Symposium.** Panel discussion on art's potential to build community and provide resistance to the status quo. Hosted by Detroit-based performance artist Jennifer Harge and art critic Taylor Renee Aldridge. Other panelists TBA. *7–8:30 p.m., U-M Institute for the Humanities Atrium, 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936–3518.*

★**"Folk Song Sing-Along."** Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski lead a family-oriented recreational sing-along of folk songs. Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Lyrics and chords are projected on a screen for singers and strummers. *7 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (tentative). Free. 426–7818.*

★**Asaf Zohar: U-M School of Music.** This Tel Aviv University piano professor performs Beethoven sonatas, including *Pathetique, Waldstein,* and *Appassionata. 7:30 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615–3204.*

★**Faculty Chamber Recital: EMU Music Department.** EMU voice professor **Robert Peavler** presents a program of contemporary chamber music with fellow faculty, including pianist **Garik Pedersen,** percussionist **John Dorsey,** violinist **Dan Foster,** cellist **Deborah Pae,** clarinetist **Sandra Jackson,** and hornist **Denise Root-Pierce.** Program: Phillip Schroeder's *Songs on Poems by Ogden Nash,* Jocelyn Hagen's "Love Song," John Musto's *River Songs,* Lori Laitman's "Long Pond Revisited," and Anthony Plog's *Aesop's Fables. 7:30 p.m. EMU Honors College (formerly Holy Trinity Chapel), 511 W. Forest Ave., Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.*

23 TUESDAY

★**"What is a People?: Some Lessons from Gandhi's India": U-M Institute for the Humanities.** Talk by U-M history professor Mrinalini Sinha. *12:30–1:30 p.m., Osterman Common Rm., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 936–3518.*

singer-songwriter

Ruth B.

Bright and ascending



I saw Carly Simon in a solo concert in 1972, sitting at a piano and singing in a mid-sized hall. It was only a year after she'd released her first recording, which won her a Grammy for Best New Artist. My seat was near the back, but she was still mesmerizing. I recalled that concert recently as I watched YouTube videos of Canadian singer-songwriter Ruth B. Their voices aren't similar, and their music has little in common, but I was seeing both artists showing great promise at the beginning of their careers.

Simon went on to create remarkable music for decades. We won't know Ruth B.'s trajectory for some time, but, like Simon, she is off to a notable start. She's already won a Juno, Canada's equivalent of the Grammys, for Breakthrough Artist of the Year and was also nominated for Songwriter of the Year.

Born Ruth Berhe, Ruth B. is only twenty-two and just released her first album, *Safe Haven,* last year. But her songwriting and performing already show elements of the sureness and confidence of a mature artist, even as she retains a bubbling, youthful enthusiasm and a shy, aw-shucks smile. Cameras love her, a quality which certainly helped when she started building her following about four years ago on the now defunct social media app Vine and on YouTube.

Even in those videos, and certainly in concert clips, she presents her songs more than herself, usually dressing plainly in black jeans and a T-shirt or, in more formal settings, an elegant black jacket over a white blouse. She can command a room with just her voice and piano, and even in large outdoor venues, accompanied by a keyboard, bass, and drums trio, she sits or strolls, rather than struts, about the stage. Her spare and simple piano playing perfectly complements her supple voice, which transitions smoothly from full-throated fervor to effortless falsetto and back again. She lets her lyrics and singing engage audiences, who are increasingly responding by singing along, choir-like, word for word.

As with many young songwriters, her songs are about the stuff of her life; relationship concerns dominate. But here too, as in her stage persona, she shows a preference for more than the surface. In "Superficial Love" she sings, "You're really cute I must admit / But I need something deeper than this / I wanna know when I'm looking at you / That you don't only see the things you want to." She sings with a healthy strength, "And if you wanna keep me then you better treat me / Like a damn princess, make that an empress."

It is impossible to predict Ruth B.'s future, but when she visits the Ark on January 30, it will be a chance to see an artist whose star may be ascending—and who already shines bright.

—Sandor Slomovits

★"Guided Meditation for Young Kids": Ann Arbor District Library. *Jan. 23 & 28.* Local massage therapist and meditation leader Amy Tarrant leads kids (with or without a parent) in grades preK & K (Jan. 23) and grades 1–5 (Jan. 28) in a series of guided meditations. At the end of the session, kids have a chance to process the experience through artistic expression. Bring a blanket or pillow, if you like. *2–3 p.m., AADL Westgate (Jan. 23) & Traverwood (Jan. 28). Free. 327–8301.*

★"#metoo: Why Talking about Sexual Harassment Matters and Where We Go from Here": Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by SafeHouse Center director Barbara Neiss. *3–5 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327–8301.*

★Strings Showcase: U-M School of Music. Outstanding string students perform solo and ensemble chamber works. *3 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

★"Raised Right: Fatherhood in Modern American Conservatism": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. University of Connecticut political science professor Jeffrey Dudas discusses his book about the paternalistic logic of conservative ideology. *3:10 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764–9537.*

★"Russia's Complex Relationship with the North Caucasus: Past and Present": U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. Panel discussion on Chechen-Russian relations, including the radicalism in the North Caucasus that led to the 2004 Beslan school siege. Panelists include U-M political science professor Pauline Jones, U-M Islamic studies professor Alexander Knysh, and Human Rights Watch Russia program director Tanya Lokshina. Moderated by center director Geneviève Zubrzycki. *6–7:30 p.m., 1010 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.*

★"Jane Austen-Inspired Embroidery": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grades 6 & up invited to embroider a monogrammed handkerchief. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Drummunity!" Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★"Line 5 and Other Challenges Impacting the Great Lakes": League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area/Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion with Ann Arbor–based National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration scientist Eric Anderson and environment attorney Liz Kirkwood. Q&A. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★"The Plant-Based Solution": Literati Bookstore. WSU medical professor **Joel Hahn,** a renowned cardiologist known as "America's Healthy Heart Doc," discusses and reads from his new book advocating a whole-foods, plant-based diet. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★"Value the Voice: Nobody Told Me": U-M Comprehensive Studies Program/U-M Department of Afroamerican and African Studies. U-M students, faculty, and staff tell stories about what they wish they would have known before they started a new semester. *7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–5517.*

★Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters. *Rescheduled from Nov.* Widely published Cleveland performance poet **Siaara Freeman,** who rose to national prominence in 2014 at the Rustbelt Regional Poetry Slam in Detroit with a searing performance of her autobiographical poem "The Drug Dealer's Daughter," reads from her debut collection ***Good Morning, Hood Warning.*** Many of her poems are in the voice of a persona called "Urban Girl." The program begins with open mike readings. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

24 WEDNESDAY

★"How Do I Protect What I Have and Those I Love from the Devastating Costs of Long-Term Care?": U-M Turner Senior Center. Talk by local estate planning attorney Terrence Bertram. *10–11:30 a.m., U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. Preregistration recommended. 998–9353.*

★"From Theory to Practice: Engaging Intersectional Organizing for Structural Transformation": U-M MLK Symposium/Literati Bookstore. Talk by Detroit social justice facilitator Adrienne Maree Brown, author of the self-help book *Emergent Strategy. Noon, Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★"The Fracking Debate: The Risks, Benefits, and Uncertainties of the Shale Revolution": U-M Ford School of Public Policy. Talk by U-M public policy research analyst Daniel Raimi, a specialist on energy policy. Reception follows. *4–5:30 p.m., U-M Weill Hall Annenberg Auditorium, 735 S. State. Free. 764–3490.*

★"How to Read African American Literature": U-M Institute for the Humanities Authors Forum. U-M English professor **Aida Levy-Hussen** reads from her new book and discusses it with U-M English and women's studies professor **Victor Mendoza.** *5:30–7 p.m., 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–3166.*

★"An Archaeology of Migration": U-M Natural History Museum Science Café. U-M anthropology professor and Undocumented Migration Project director Jason De León, a 2017 MacArthur "Genius" grant winner, discusses the impact of migration stories on public policy. De León's own research documents the objects left behind by border crossers in the Sonoran desert. Preceded at 5:30 p.m. by hors d'oeuvres. *6–7:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. Free. 764–0478.*

★"Introduction to Weaving": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grades 6 & up invited to learn the basics of weaving on a cardboard loom. Materials provided. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Practical Permaculture: 10 Simple Ways to Live It": People's Food Co-op. Talk by local permaculture designer and teacher (and PFC outreach coordinator) David Hall. *7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required by phone or email. outreach@peoplesfood.coop, 994–4589.*

★"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Reading by Ferris State University writing professor **Jamie Thomas,** a widely published poet whose debut collection, *Etch and Blur,* is praised by a *Poets' Quarterly* review for its "wordplay and cleverness, the irony of which offers up moving turns when the poems brush against genuine introspective emotionality." Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.*

★History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss Simon Ings' ***A Natural History of Seeing: The Art and Science of Vision.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"Us/Them": BRONKS Theater Company (University Musical Society). *Jan. 24–28.* This Brussels-based children's theater company presents writer-director Carly Wijs' children's theater piece dramatizing a 2004 siege when Chechen rebels captured a Russian elementary school and for 2 days held hostage more than 1,000 parents, teachers, and children, more than 300 of whom died before it was over. Although not the most promising premise for young audiences, the show was a hit at the 2016 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and the festival's reviewer David Kettle says that "to call it kids' theater is really doing it a disservice—*Us/Them*'s theatrical inventiveness and refusal to sugarcoat its tough themes make it a provocative show for any age." *7:30 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun), U-M Walgreen Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin. Tickets $35–$40 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

25 THURSDAY

"Frog and Toad": Wild Swan Theater. *Jan. 25–27.* This award-winning local children's theater company performs its play based on Arnold Lobel's beloved stories about 2 friends who help each other through thick and thin. In this version, Frog and Toad greet spring, plant a garden, and share a basket of cookies. Appropriate for kids in grades pre-K to 2. *Note:* The Thursday and Friday morning shows are sold out. *10 a.m. (Thurs. & Fri.), 12:30 p.m. (Fri.), & 11 a.m. (Sat.), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $12 (seniors age 60 & over and kids, $10; lap passes for kids age*

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WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 31, 2018
7:00 P.M.

Hear Richard Camp recount his experience while serving in Vietnam during the 1968 TET Offensive.

"The '68 TET offensive began with a barrage of artillery fire on the afternoon of 21 January. At that moment, the far-off "pop" of incoming rounds sent me racing to a trench a few feet from my above ground bunker. Within minutes a stretcher party loped past carrying one of my Marines, who had been struck by a piece of shrapnel."

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2 & under, $3) in advance at wildswantheater.org and at the door. 995–0530.

★"Lead Yourself First": U-M Law School/Literati Bookstore. Ann Arbor–based U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge Raymond Kethledge discusses his new book exploring the creative and moral power of solitude. *11:30 a.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★"Brexit Means Brexit … But What Does That Mean for Scotland and Ireland?": U-M Center for European Studies. Talk by U-M public policy professor Scott Greer. *4–5:30 p.m., 110 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764–3501.*

★Jane Hirshfield & Brit Bennett: Zell Visiting Writers Series. *See review, p. 63.* Reading by these 2 writers. Award-winning poet and essayist Hirshfield reads from her 2015 collection, *The Beauty,* and new works. A Zen Buddhist, Hirshfield writes spare poems that often center on a particular insight. "I am interested in poems that find a clarity without simplicity," she says. Brittany Bennet is a U-M grad whose 2016 debut novel, *The Mothers,* is about a 17-year-old, reeling from her mother's recent suicide, who takes up with the local pastor's son, a 21-year-old former football star. Signing. *5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3710.*

★3-D Printing Lab: Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grades 6 & up invited to use the Printrbot 3-D printer. *6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Beginning Crochet": Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Beth Battey shows adults and youth in grade 6 & up how to do a crochet project for beginners. Supplies provided. *6:30–8:45 p.m., AADL Traverwood. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Impact and Management of Urban/Suburban White-Tailed Deer": U-M Program in the Environment. Talk by Cornell University natural resources professor Bernd Blossey, who is featured in the 2013 PBS documentary *The Private Life of Deer. 7 p.m., 1040 Dana Hall, 440 Church. Free. 763–9460.*

★"A Celebration of MLK's Biblical Legacy": U-M MLK Symposium. Talk by Ashland Theological Seminary Near Eastern studies professor Mitzi Smith. Followed by a discussion with panelists TBA. *7–8:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 763–1595.*

★"Her Body and Other Parties": Literati Bookstore Feminist Book Club. All invited to discuss Carmen Maria Machado's acclaimed collection of wildly inventive, genre-bending stories about women struggling to take control of their lives. "The book abounds with fantastical premises that ring true because the intensity of sexual desire, the mutability of the body, and the realities of gender inequality make them so," says *San Francisco Chronicle* critic Polly Rosenwaike. "These stories stand as exquisitely rendered, poignant hauntings." *7–8:30 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

"Us/Them": BRONKS Theater Company (University Musical Society). See 24 Wednesday. 7:30 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Stewart Huff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *Jan. 25–27.* Local debut of this Atlanta-based comic who rose to national prominence telling the story about donating sperm to his sister's wife. His new show, "Sense Ain't Common," is a self-described bit of "hillbilly philosophy" where Huff explores the persecution of free thinkers from antiquity to today. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

26 FRIDAY

"Frog and Toad": Wild Swan Theater. See 25 Thursday. 10 a.m. (sold out) & 12:30 p.m.

★"Trans Health Activism in Detroit: Moving Forward Together": U-M MLK Symposium. Ruth Ellis Center medical and behavioral health staff and members of the community it serves discuss the work of this Detroit agency that serves LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness and residential instability. *2:10–4 p.m., Michigan League Vandenberg Rm. Free. (586) 292–2738.*

★"Cattle/Beef: Health, Development, and Self-Devouring Growth in Botswana": U-M Anthropology Department. NYU anthropology professor Julie Livingston discusses the interplay between the health of cattle and that of their human caretakers in Botswana. *3–5 p.m., 411 West Hall, 550 East University. Free. 764–7274.*

Beer & Cheese Pairing: Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery retail manager Tessie Ives-Wilson discusses and offers taste samples of cheeses that pair well with a wide range of beer styles. Bread & other accompaniments provided. *6–8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $35. Reservations required. 929–0500.*

41st Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark. *Jan. 26 & 27 (different programs).* A major highlight of the local musical year, with established and rising stars representing a wide spectrum of vernacular musical idioms. Tonight's headliner is **Jason Isbell & the 400 Unit,** the alt-country quintet led by Alabama singer-songwriter Isbell, a former member of the Drive-By Truckers whose 2017 CD, *The Nashville Sound,* has been praised by *Rolling Stone* for its boldness and ace songwriting that revolves around compelling characters and is influenced by everything from the current cultural divide to Isbell's young daughter. Also appearing: **JJ Grey & Mofro,** the highly regarded Florida band that plays a down-home, soulful hybrid of blues, country, funk, and rock. **Stephen Kellogg,** the popular Massachusetts singer-songwriter known for his impassioned, radio-friendly Americana-tinged pop-rock. **Dead Horses,** an up-and-coming Oshkosh (WI) folk trio, fronted by guitarist Sarah Vos, a singer-songwriter whose engaging coming-of-age story songs are set to music that draws imaginatively on old-time, gospel, and bluegrass idioms. **Lori McKenna,** the acclaimed roots-pop singer-songwriter from Soughton (MA) who's praised by *Boston Globe* critic Scott Alarik for "a startlingly deep, resonant, and cracklingly emotional singing voice." **Chastity Brown,** an acclaimed Minneapolis Americana singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who the *Billings Gazette* calls "a banjo-playing soul singer, a harmonica-blowing gospel belter, a piano-pounding blues woman." Emcee both nights is **Joe Pug,** the highly regarded young Chicago-based folk-rock singer-songwriter whose best songs manage to blend Springsteen's conversational, musing Everyman with Dylan's gnomic parables. *6:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $42.50–$200 per night or $75–$360 for both, in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and theark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763-TKTS.*

★"Simple Elegant Earrings": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for adults & teens in grades 8 & up using beads and wire. *7–8 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

★Kathy Edgren and Jennifer Burd: Literati Bookstore. These 2 local poets read from their new books. Former Ann Arbor city councilwoman Edgren reads from ***The Grain Beneath the Gloss,*** a collection of poems exploring the realities that keep themselves secret within appearances, and Burd reads from ***Day's Late Blue,*** her new collection of poems that explore relationships with nature, family, and others. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free.*

★"Out of the Silence: A Narrated Concert to Honor Black Classical Musicians of the Past": U-M School of Music/UMMA. U-M music students are joined by bass-baritone (and U-M music professor emeritus) **Willis Patterson,** harpist **Patricia Terry-Ross,** and storyteller (and U-M Afroamerican and African program associate) **Elizabeth James** in works by William Grant Still, Florence Price, Harry Freeman, Harry T. Burleigh, Margaret Bonds, and others. *7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 615–3204.*

"Being Peace": Huron River Sangha. All invited to sing songs that promote mindfulness. Also, a guided meditation and performances by classical pianist Betsy McCabe and local singer-songwriters Joe Reilly and Allison Radell, with percussionist Jamie Rusling. Bring a meditation cushion, blanket, and teacup or travel mug. *7–9:30 p.m., Friends meeting House, 1420 Hill. Donation. joereillymusic@gmail.com*

★Symphony Band Chamber Winds: U-M School of Music. This ensemble of U-M music students performs Sedlak's arrangement of Rossini's *Barber of Seville Overture,* Carl Henning's *Out in the Sun,* David Gillingham's Serenade for Winds and Percussion, Rob Smith's *Catalytic Concerto,* and 3 Stravinsky works: *Pastoral,* Concertino, and *Elegy for JFK. 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Hankinson Rehearsal Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XVI": Kerrytown Concert House. *Jan. 26–28 and Feb. 2 & 3.* An elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs showcasing noted local women singers. With pianist Tyler Driskill. Singers include Laurie Atwood, Linda Beaupre, Sue Booth, Roxy Diederich, Shelley MacMillan, Deanna Relyea, Monica Swartout-Bebow, Lisa Tucker-Gray, and Kathy Waugh. Monica Swartout-Bebow directs. Wine is served. This popular event usually sells out. *8 p.m. (except Jan. 28, 4 p.m.), KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20–$50. Reservations recommended. Kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.*

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. *Every Thurs.–Sun., beginning Jan. 26.* Carla Milarch directs Megan VanArsdale and Forrest Hejkal in this critically-acclaimed 2-actor play by British playwright Nick Payne about the universe of different possible romantic trajectories between a Cambridge University astrophysicist and a beekeeper. "Brainy stuff, this string theory, but the play is a simple and often graceful demonstration of this premise," enthuses the *Guardian* (U.K.) review. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Tickets (if available) are $20 or pay what you can, in advance at theatrenova.org and at the door. Members ($75 annual donation) receive priority access to all shows. 635–8450.*

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Us/Them": BRONKS Theater Company (University Musical Society). See 24 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Stewart Huff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 25 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

27 SATURDAY

"ScienceFest: It's Not Magic, It's Science!": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Jan. 27 & 28.* Demonstration of magic tricks—such as writing with invisible ink and making water defy gravity—and explanations of the science behind them. *10 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & noon–4 p.m. (Sun.), AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $12 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★"DIY Zone": The Neutral Zone. Daylong series of activities for high schoolers, including engineering, environmental sustainability, robotics, music technology, app development, game design, and screen printing projects. Also, performances by teen musicians and DJs throughout the day. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Neutral Zone, 310 E. Washington. Free. 214–9995.*

★"Winterfest 2018": Saline Main Street. Daylong festival of indoor and outdoor winter activities, including an obstacle course, a family puzzle room, crafts, carnival games, broomball, street games, **"Cold Butt Euchre,"** a shooting gallery, and more. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., downtown Saline. Free admission (small fee for some activities). director@salinemainstreet.org, 316–2119.*

★"Science Fun with FEMMES": Ann Arbor District Library. This U-M student group (Females Excelling More in Math, Engineering, and Science) presents a program of hands-on activities for kids in grades 2–6. *11 a.m.–12:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Popsicle Stick Paper Dolls": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for kids in grades K–5. Supplies provided. *11 a.m.–noon, AADL Traverwood. Free. 327–8301.*

"Frog and Toad": Wild Swan Theater. See 25 Thursday. Today's show includes activities led by Leslie Science & Nature Center representatives. 11 a.m.

★"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA. A U-M student docent reads a story related to art on display. Followed by a short craft activity. For kids ages 3–6 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. *11:15 a.m.–noon, meet at the UMMA store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

"Tosca": The Metropolitan Opera (Fathom Events). Live broadcast (Jan. 27) & rebroadcast (Jan. 31) of the Met's production of Puccini's impassioned opera, a melodrama about a diva who kills for love. It features some of Puccini's best-known lyrical arias. Italian, subtitles. *12:55 p.m. (Jan. 27) & 1 & 6:30 p.m. (Jan. 31), Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 + IMAX (4100 Carpenter). Tickets $18 (Quality 16) & $25 & $27 (Ann Arbor 20) in advance at fathomevents.com/events/met1718-tosca & at the door. 827–2863 (Quality 16) & 973–8424 (Ann Arbor 20).*

★U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Oklahoma. *1 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. Free. 764–0247.*

★"Junior Naturalist: Birds of Winter": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads a birding hike for youth ages 7–12, followed by making a birdfeeder to take home. Bring binoculars if you have them; some available to borrow. *1–3 p.m., Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings (north*

classical

Janai Brugger

Poetic treasures and rarefied airs



DARIO ACOSTA

On January 31, lyric soprano Janai Brugger will step away from her busy schedule as ascendant opera star to return to Ann Arbor for a lieder recital at Lydia Mendelssohn Theater, accompanied by our master of collaborative piano, Martin Katz. The concert will open with a bouquet of French mélodies by Francis Poulenc. "Pastoral Air" with words by Jean Moréas will be followed by an ode to the "Queen of the Seagulls" and two satires on marriage by Marie Louise Lévêque de Vilmorin, who was praised by Poulenc for her "sensitive impertinence."

Yet the real treasure in this part of the program will be Poulenc's poignant setting of a poem by surrealist French Resistance poet Louis Aragon, simply entitled "C." This refers to "Les Ponts-de-Ce," a group of bridges spanning the river Loire near Angers in western France. Traversing the bridges on foot in 1942, the poet was haunted by visions of the distant past while contemplating the wretched aftermath of the German invasion, grimly embodied by overturned automobiles. Poulenc's music and Aragon's words form an unforgettable lament for all who suffered and perished in Nazi-occupied France.

Franz Schubert composed "On the River" near the end of his brief life. The verses by Ludwig Rellstab paint a wistful picture of an individual seated in a boat embarking on a sombre journey from familiar surroundings to the gray and turbulent expanse of the open sea. Scored for voice, piano, and French horn, "On the River" is considered the sole counterpart to Schubert's very last song, "The Shepherd on the Rock," in which the horn is replaced by a clarinet. Brugger and Katz's realization of "On the River" will feature U-M horn professor Adam Unsworth.

The first half of the concert will close with five lieder by Richard Strauss, including two love songs that he gave to his wife as a wedding present in 1894. The gentle music that Strauss wove around "Cäcilie," a poem written by essayist Heinrich Hart for his own wife, conveys a heady blend of amorous longing and contentment. Brugger's highly developed theatrical sensibilities are sure to enhance the Strauss *Ophelia Lieder* of 1919, adding Shakespeare to the evening's roster of lyricists.

The second set will open in the rarefied atmosphere of Sergei Rachmaninoff's songs on verses by six Russian Symbolist poets, composed in 1916 and dedicated to Ukrainian soprano Nina Koshetz. These were the last of Rachmaninoff's songs, for, after relocating to the United States, he devoted himself almost exclusively to the piano. Brugger's richly varied program will close with American composer Lee Hoiby's settings of nature poems by e.e. cummings, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, William Blake, William Butler Yeats, and Emily Dickinson.

—arwulf arwulf

off North Territorial), Dexter. Free; preregistration required at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. 971–6337.

★"Street Ink Drop-In": Ann Arbor Art Center. All invited to design future manhole covers for the city and submit designs to the Art Center's contest. All ages welcome; kids must be accompanied by an adult. *1–5 p.m., Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. Free. 994–8004.*

"Snow Much Fun!": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. An afternoon of family-friendly winter activities, including a petting zoo, face painting, cross-country skiing, and sledding. Followed by a craft in the Lodge and hot chocolate by a campfire. *1–4 p.m., Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. $5. Preregistration available at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. 484–9676, ext. 201.*

★"Gaming Tournaments": Ann Arbor District Library. *Jan. 27 & 28.* Video game tournaments. *Jan. 27:* **"Ultra Street Fighter II."** For adults and teens grades 6 & up. *Jan. 28:* **"Mario Kart 8 Deluxe."** For all ages. *1–4 p.m., AADL Downtown meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Board Game Afternoon": Ann Arbor District Library. All invited to play board games in the AADL collection, including Oregon Trail, Ticket to Ride, Yeti in My Spaghetti, Dominion, Sushi Go, Stratego, Grand Austria Hotel, Space Team, & more. Bring your own, if you wish. *2:30–5:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.*

"Parents Night Out: Flight School": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Kids in grades K-6 invited to investigate the center's raptors to discover the principles of flight in order to build their own flying machine. Also, a Panera PB&J or turkey sandwich and a late-night popcorn snack. Activities held outdoors as much as possible, so kids should come dressed for the weather. *5–10 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $30 (members, $25) per child. 997–1553.*

41st Annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival: The Ark. See 26 Friday. Tonight's headliner is **John Prine,** the legendary singer-songwriter whose music has undergone a number of changes since he first appeared on the scene more than 40 years ago, from folk to rock to country to Sun Records-style rockabilly to the blues-based songs on his Grammy-winning 1991 LP, *The Missing Years,* and folksy storytelling on his 2006 CD, *Fair & Square.* But underneath all these mutations, Prine has persisted as an always arresting, often luminous chronicler of the inner life of provincial America, its joys and sorrows, its ecstasies and absurdities, its romance and tedium. He's also an engagingly charismatic performer who sings in a voice that's as flat and tangy as his native Midwestern landscape. Also appearing: veteran pop-rock singer-songwriter **Aimee Mann,** who specializes in spare, sharply incised snapshots of human relationships in varying states of disrepair. **Mountain Heart,** the bluegrass ensemble that won the 1999 International Bluegrass Association Emerging Artist of the Year Award. **Birds of Chicago,** the Americana ensemble led by singer-songwriters JT Nero of the Chicago rock 'n' soul band JT Nero & the Clouds and Allison Russell of the Canadian urban folk band Po' Girl. **The Cactus Blossoms,** the Everly Brothers-style duo of brothers Page Burkum and Jack Torrey whose performance of their song "Mississippi" was a musical highlight of *Twin Peaks: The Return.* The soulful Albion Americana band **The War and Treaty.** 6:30 p.m.

★"Here Is Real Magic": Literati Bookstore. Veteran professional magician **Nate Stanifoth** reads from and discusses his memoir tracing his career from burnout to his rediscovery of the rejuvenating power of wonder during a trip to India where he was taken in by a 3,000-year-old clan of street magicians. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free.*

20th Annual Hometown Concert: Chelsea House Orchestra. This ensemble of 26 Chelsea High School students plays traditional Scottish and Irish jigs and reels, along with other folk-inspired music and even some rock 'n' roll. Also, an afterglow to visit with current and past CHO musicians. *7 p.m., Chelsea High School Auditorium, 740 N. Freer, Chelsea. Tickets $12 (students & seniors, $8) in advance at Chelsea Pharmacy and chelseahouseorchestra.org, at the door. 475–1957.*

"FutureStars 2018": Pioneer High School. See 19 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Mozart Birthday Bash": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. AASO music director Arie Lipsky conducts the orchestra and guest musicians in a program celebrating Mozart's 262nd birthday. Program: The premiere of U-M composition grad student Katie Fellman's *Reflections on Mozart: Big Bend*, as well as Mozart's Symphony no. 1, Symphony no. 41 (*Jupiter*), and Clarinet Concerto with guest clarinetist **Chad Burrow.** Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture on the program with Lipsky, Fellman, and Burrow. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $18–$70 (student, senior, and group discounts available) in advance at the AASO office (220 E. Huron, ste. 470), at a2so.com, and at the door. 994–4801.*

Russian Renaissance: University Musical Society. This Moscow-based ensemble, winner of the 2017 M-Prize chamber music competition, presents a program of self-described "world music with a Russian soul" performed on iconic instruments of traditional Russian music: the balalaika and contrabasso balalaika, the *domra* (a lute believed to be the forerunner of the balalaika), and the button accordion. *8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets $24–$42 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

Timothy Monger and Gifts or Creatures: Stony Lake Brewing Acoustic Routes Concert. Double bill. Monger is an engaging local pop-rock singer-songwriter-guitarist from the Great Lakes Myth Society whose pop-rock Americana fuses high lonesome tunes with evocative tales drawn from ordinary life. *AV Club* music critic Erik Adams praises the "lush chamber-pop arrangements and general air of yearning" in Monger's latest solo album, *Amber Lantern.* Gifts or Creatures is the Lansing husband-and-wife Americana duo of Brandon and Bethany Foote, who write songs about everything from life in the UP to Harry Houdini and the biblical Samson. Their latest album, *Fair Mitten (New Songs of the Historic Great Lakes Basin),* was released in September. *8 p.m., Stony Lake Brewing, 447 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. $15 at the door. 316–7919.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XVI": Kerrytown Concert House. See 26 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 26 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Us/Them": BRONKS Theater Company (University Musical Society). See 24 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Stewart Huff: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 25 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

28 SUNDAY

"Dragons Love Tacos": Theatreworks USA (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This renowned NYC–based children's theater troupe returns to the Michigan Theater to present its musical based on Adam Rubin's best-selling kids book about the trouble that ensues after a dragon with a taco obsession accidentally eats spicy salsa. Recommended for theatergoers in grades K-3 & their families. *1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $13 (MTF members, $11) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

★"Michigan's US-12 Heritage Trail: America's Second Federal Highway": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Talk by Saline Area Historical Society members Susan Kosky and Gladys Saborio on the history of this 212-mile road, which was designated a national heritage trail due in part to their efforts. Followed by a DVD screening of popular national genealogy lecturer John Philip Colletta on **"Your Ancestors in the County Courthouse."** *1:30 & 3:30 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.*

★"Geometric Paper Wall Art": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for all adults & teens in grade 6 & up. Material and guidance provided. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Roamin' Riverbend": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Kelsey Dehring leads a hike along the banks of the River Raisin to explore the winter landscape. *2–3:30 p.m., Riverbend Preserve meet at the Allen Rd. parking lot on Allen Rd. near the intersection with Clinton Rd., Clinton. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

"Winter Orienteering": Waterloo Natural History Association. WNHA naturalists lead a hike to learn to find your way through the woods in winter. Compass provided, or bring your own. *2–4 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5). Space limited; preregistration required. $11 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★"Aftermath: Landscapes of Devastation": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of landscape photos of volcano eruptions, floods, massacres, uprisings, and nuclear explosions. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild. All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. Park in rear and use door to the community room. Front entrance is handicap accessible. *2–4 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Free. annarborstorytelling.org, 997–5388.*

★"The Adventure of the Bruce-Partington Plans": The Arcadia Mixture Sherlock Holmes Club. All invited to discuss Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes story in which Sherlock's reclusive brother Mycroft enlists Holmes and Watson to find the stolen plans for a secret submarine. Also, a quiz. *2–4 p.m., Classic Cup Café, 4389 Jackson. Free (buy your own food). rpl@umich.edu*

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 26 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Us/Them": BRONKS Theater Company (University Musical Society). See 24 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

★"Graphic Power: Promoting Japan Through Contemporary Posters": UMMA. U-M Asian art curator Natsu Oyobe discusses the current exhibit of 1980s & 90s works by Japanese graphic designers. *3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free; preregistration required by emailing umma-program-registration@umich.edu (include program title & date in the subject line). 764–0395.*

"Students for Pipes": St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Young church members present a recital of solo and ensemble works. Proceeds go toward a new church organ. *4 p.m. St. Andrew's 306 N. Division. Free-will offering at the door. 663–0518.*

Maxim Vengerov: University Musical Society. This former violin child prodigy was last in town nearly 20 years ago as a brilliant, brash wunderkind. Now 43, he remains one of the world's most in-demand soloists, celebrated for his charisma, virtuosity, and tone. Accompanied by pianist Roustem Saïtkoulov, he performs the Scherzo in C Minor from Brahms' F-A-E Sonata and his Sonata no. 3 in D Minor, Ravel's Violin Sonata no. 2 in G Major, Heinrich Ernst's *Theme and Variations on 'The Last Rose of Summer,'* and Paganini's Cantabile for Violin and Piano in D Major and his Variations on *I Palpiti*. *4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $12–$68 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Wine, Women, and Song XVI": Kerrytown Concert House. See 26 Friday. 4 p.m.

★"Learning to Hear the Violin": U-M School of Music. Talk by local violin maker and MacArthur fellow Joseph Curtin. *4:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Watkins Lecture Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.*

★Open Stage: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All performers invited to showcase their talents. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free (pay-what-you-can for spectators). Email info@pointlessbrew.com to sign up for an 8-minute spot. (989) 455–4484.*

29 MONDAY

★"Philhellenism and the Invention of American History": U-M Modern Greek Program Pallas Lecture. Talk by Brown University classics professor (and U-M grad) Johanna Hanink, *4–5:30 p.m., 2175 Angell Hall. Free. 936–6099.*

★"Introduction to Theremini": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grades 6 & up invited to learn the basics of playing the theremin on this simplified version, which includes a built-in synthesizer. *7–8 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★Eco Book Club: Literati Bookstore. All invited to discuss Terry Tempest's ***The Hour of Dawn: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks.*** *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

30 TUESDAY

★"French Macarons 101": Ann Arbor District Library. People's Food Co-op head baker Keegan Rodgers presents a hands-on introduction to making and properly storing these tasty meringue-based cookies, not to be confused with macaroons. Recipes. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *2–3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327–8301.*

★Antonya Nelson: U-M Hopwood Underclassmen Awards Ceremony. Reading by this fiction writer and novelist, a University of Houston creative writing instructor and winner of a Guggenheim Fellowship. Novelist Michael Chabon says, "I scan the tables of contents of magazines, looking for Antonya Nelson's name, hoping that she has decided to bless us again." Preceded by awards presentations to U-M undergrad poets and prose writers. *3:30 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764–6296.*

★"U.S.-Israel Relations in the Age of Trump": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies Wieseneck Symposium. Panel discussion with Penguin Press executive editor Warren Bass, Carleton University (Ottawa) political science professor Mira Sucharov, and U-M political science professor Mark Tessler. *4 p.m., 3100 North Quad, 105 S. State. Free. 763–9047.*

★Washtenaw Reads Book Discussion: Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grades 9 & up invited to discuss ***Homegoing,*** this year's Washtenaw Reads selection. Yaa Gyasi's acclaimed novel explores the damaging effects of the slave trade on 7 generations of a family split between the U.S. and Ghana's Gold Coast. *7–8 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Origami": Ann Arbor District Library. Internationally known local origami artist Beth Johnson discusses and shows participants how to do this popular Japanese paper-folding craft. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.*

"13th Annual African American Foodways Dinner: Taste and Terroir, an Exploration of African American Winemaking": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Roadhouse head chef Bob Bennet prepares dishes from Edna Lewis' southern cooking classic *The Taste of Country Cooking*, including oyster stew, smothered rabbit with griddle cake, braised short ribs, and coconut layer cake. Wine pairings provided by Mouton Noir Wines (OR) winemaker André Hueston Mack, who is on hand to discuss his wines. Prior to founding his vineyard, Mack was an award-winning sommelier for Michelin star chef/restaurateur Thomas Keller. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $95. Reservations required. 663–3663.*

31 WEDNESDAY

"Tosca": The Metropolitan Opera (Fathom Events). See 27 Saturday. 1 & 6:30 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 18 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★"Beyond the Wall: The Human Toll of Border Crossings": U-M Wallace House Livingston Lectures. Talk by Seattle-based freelance journalist **Brooke Jarvis** and U-M anthropology professor **Jason De León.** *4–5:30 p.m., Weill Hall Auditorium, 735 S. State. Free. 998–7666.*

★"The Life and Times of Lizzy Bennet": U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery. Curator-led tour of the current exhibit that showcases early editions of Jane Austen's works and materials that illustrate her historical moment. *4:30 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library Gallery Audubon Rm., enter from the Diag. Free. 936–2309.*

★"Autumn": Literati Book Club. All invited to discuss Ali Smith's 2016 novel, set in contemporary England, about a long friendship between a thirty-something woman and an elderly man. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★"Whereas": Literati Bookstore Poetry Book Club. All invited to discuss Oglala Lakota poet Layli Long Soldier's new collection. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★"Ringed by Fire: The Siege of Khe Sanh": U-M Ford Presidential Library. Retired colonel Richard Camp recounts his experience serving in Vietnam during the Tet offensive. Reception follows. *7 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205–0555.*

Janai Brugger: University Musical Society. *(See review, p. 66)* This U-M alumna, winner of the prestigious Operalia competition, is a Metropolitan Opera rising star hailed by *Opera News* for her "supple, beautifully shaded lyric soprano." Accompanist is U-M piano professor Martin Katz. Program: works by Schubert, Richard Strauss, Rachmaninoff, Poulenc, and contemporary American opera composer Lee Hoiby. *7:30 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Tickets $25–$40 in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Women's Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All women, trans, and non-binary folks invited to perform (or just watch) short-form improv skits. *7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Donation. (989) 455–4484.*

★"New Music Concert": University Philharmonia Orchestra. This ensemble of U-M music majors performs its annual concert of new works by student composers, with student conductors. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.*

"They, Themself, and Schmerm": University Musical Society. *Jan. 31–Feb. 3.* This one-person stand-up show by NYC-based transgender actor/activist Becca Blackwell—who uses the personal pronouns they/them—is an alternately disturbing and funny tale of Blackwell's struggles with their religious Midwestern family, abuse, and gender identity. A *schmerm* is "a schmear of gender," Blackwell says. "It's basically the sound that people make as they try to figure my gender out." Discussions about transgender issues typically revolve around issues of whether society should accommodate trans individuals, but Blackwell inverts that expectation, says the *Portland Mercury* (OR) reviewer, who "expected Blackwell to attempt to summarize their trans experience but instead, Blackwell opens their story up until we the audience can fit inside with them." *7:30 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.) & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), U-M Walgreen Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin. Tickets $30 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.*

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 3 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the February issue is January 10.

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Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the February issue is January 10.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 75? If you can, you could win a $25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, January 10. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

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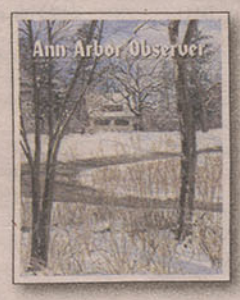
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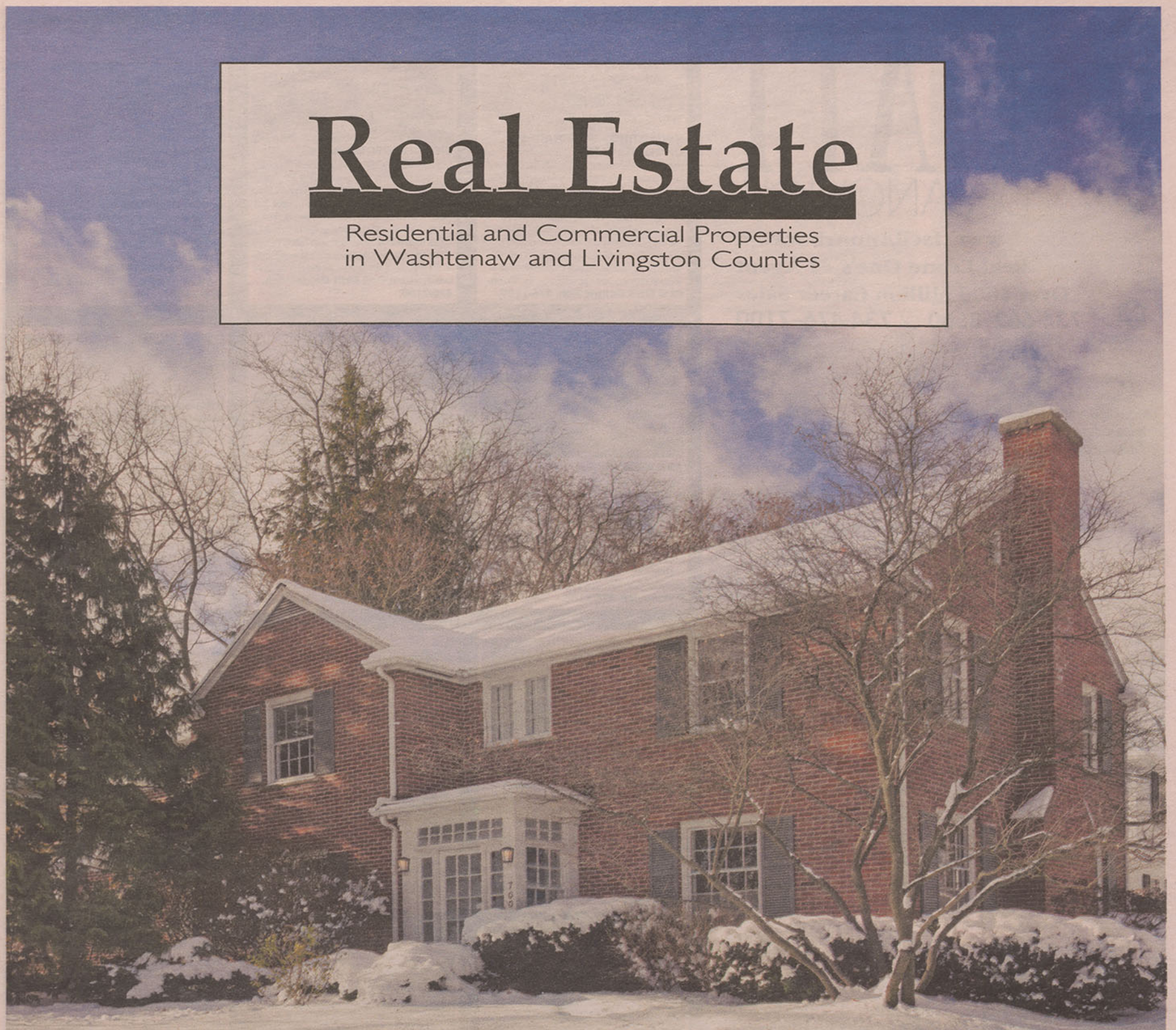
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Real Estate

Residential and Commercial Properties
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700 AVON RD., ANN ARBOR—This distinctive home is in the sought-after neighborhood of Ann Arbor Hills. The brick facade and crisp white trim welcome you to a home of classic proportions. It features a living room with fireplace and built-in cabinetry, an office lined with a desk and shelves, and a formal dining room. A sunny kitchen is the heart of the home, where family and friends gather. With miles of storage, large center island, and professional grade appliances, it will welcome the most avid cook. It includes a breakfast area, a desk, and opens to the family room. Upstairs are 4 bedrooms, including the master suite, and 3 baths. Finished basement. The large yard has a play space, visible from the kitchen window, with privacy defined by mature landscaping. Children walk to Angell and Tappan school, and in the summer, ride their bikes to the Racquet Club pool. So much of what Ann Arbor offers is in your backyard. The Arb, Gallup Park, UM Central Campus, Medical Center, and downtown are all an easy walk. $825,000.



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MARKET UPDATE – January 2018

Happy New Year! What a year in Real Estate. The 2017 selling season may go on the books as the strongest year ever for Ann Arbor real estate. Driven by demand to live in our wonderful community and outstanding neighborhoods, home values reached their highest level ever in many areas. 2018 will bring more of the same. Are you thinking of buying or selling in 2018? Call me today for a private consultation, 734-476-7100.

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BUYERS – Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search. 734-476-7100.

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NEW LISTING – WOODLANDS OF GEDDES GLEN – This brand new, custom-built 5-bedroom, 5 1/2-bath Toll Brothers home features only the finest in design, materials, and craftsmanship. Located on one of the best lots in the neighborhoods, backing to Radrick Farms, the exterior features covered patio with outdoor fireplace, wooded backyard, and extensive landscaping. The interior is showpiece with two-story great room with stacked stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen with Wolf Range, Solarium, luxury master suite, and 4 addition bedrooms with private baths. $1,799,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NICHOLS ARBORETUM – Stunning 5-bedroom, 3-bath, two ½-bath Landau-built home fully renovated home just steps from The Arb. This home has undergone a complete transformation. Highlights include extensive outdoor living area with beautiful landscaping, all hardwood flooring, open concept kitchen and family area, gorgeous formal spaces, breathtaking master suite with hilltop views of The Arb, spa-like bath, functional 2nd master suite on the main level, and finished rec room in the lower level. $1,500,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



CHELSEA – Incredible 17-acre country estate featuring one of the most stunning custom-built homes you will ever see. Enjoy this gorgeous property with panoramic vista views and abundant state land adjacent views. The home includes 5-bedroom, 5 ½-bath with exceptional materials, design, and craftsmanship throughout. Features include in-ground pool, gourmet kitchen, rec room, luxury master suite, finished walkout basement, and 5 ½ car garage. $1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



ANN ABOR HILLS – Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath, 2-half bath custom-built home by Landau on a gorgeous, wooded ¾ acre site in Ann Arbor Hills. This home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will see with towering oaks, multiple decks, and great privacy. This all-brick home features a cherry kitchen with stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace, oversized screened porch, ample hardwood floors, great master suite, and finished walkout basement. $1,250,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NE ANN ARBOR – This 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath Frank Llyod Wright inspired contemporary home is a pure masterpiece of design and materials. Estate setting with 8-acres of the most beautiful land you will find. Includes extensive landscaping with a flowing stream, stone patio, and pond. The home highlights include soaring ceilings, dramatic slate fireplace, stone flooring, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. $1,150,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



THE WOODLANDS – Spectacular 5-bedroom, 4 ½-bath custom-built home with nice contemporary flair in one of Ann Arbor's most convenient locations. This home is located minutes to hospitals, North Campus, and NCRC. Enjoy a wonderful setting on a quiet, cul-de-sac lot from the large deck, screened porch, and patio. The interior is very well-appointed with hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings, open concept kitchen with quartz counters, family room with fireplace, nice master suite with remodeled bath, and finished walkout basement. $799,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE ESTATES – This custom-built 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath home by Toll Brothers is absolutely gorgeous. Located on one of the premium lots you will see backing to protected woods with large backyard, mature trees, and great deck. The interior is a showpiece featuring a cherry kitchen, open concept family room with stone fireplace, large den, dream master suite, and finished lower level with rec room. $759,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



LANDSDOWNE – This stunning 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath Hobbs and Black Designed contemporary backs to a flowing stream. Constructed with only the best in design, craftsmanship, and materials this home is special. Great setting with wonderful outdoor living spaces and a stream view. The interior features great room with soaring ceilings, open concept kitchen with granite, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walk-out basement with rec room, bar, and fireplace. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE – Incredible 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath estate property on 8 ½ fully developed acres just south of Saline. This setting is special featuring stocked pond, inground pool, huge deck and patio areas, and spacious yard. The all-brick two-story home is custom-built and includes dramatic kitchen and family room area with stone fireplace, cherry kitchen, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



MIRAGE LAKE – Custom-built, 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home with panoramic water views. You will not find a better home with a better view on the market today. The grounds are fantastic with lake views from the large deck, paver patio, or gazebo. Interior highlights include great room with fireplace and cherry floor, custom kitchen with granite, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walkout basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. $599,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



FOX RIDGE – This stunning, 5-bedroom, 3 ½-bath former model home for Vita rests on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Dexter's most desired neighborhoods. You will love enjoying the private backyard from the oversized deck and large screened porch. The interior is perfect including custom cherry kitchen with granite, open family room with fireplace, luxury master suite with spa-like bath, and finished walk-out basement. $589,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



THE UPLANDS – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath two-story in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after neighborhoods. You will love being minutes from Main Street, UM Stadium, schools, and shopping from this wonderful neighborhood. This home has been nicely updated and features cherry kitchen with granite, open family room with hardwood floor, main floor den, very nice master suite, nice sized kids' bedrooms, and finished basement. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE SCHOOLS – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 4 ½-bath home on 5 gorgeous acres of land. This setting is incredible with sweeping views of the surrounding countryside and room for a barn or soccer field. The home is just stunning with a custom cherry kitchen including granite and stainless steel appliances, open family room, main floor den, luxury master suite with two walk-in closets and marble baths, and finished basement with view from windows includes huge multi-use rec space. $574,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SANDPIPER COVE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3 ½-bath home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in the Saline school district. The setting is special with extensive landscaping, deck, patio, and large backyard backing to woods. The interior is loaded with upgrades. Highlights include two-story great room with fireplace and wall of windows, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury first floor master suite, great kids' bedrooms, and flex use bonus room. $499,999. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE SCHOOLS – Remarkable 4-bedroom, 2 ½-bath custom-built home in The Vineyards of Sha Estates. You will love the setting on a pivate ¾ acre lot with large backyard and incredible deck/patio outdoor living area. The interior of the home features a two-story great room, open concept kitchen space, first floor master suite, and finished lower level with flex use rec room. $477,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



WHITMORE LAKE – This is a very unique property. Currently set up as a three unit, owner occupied rental property. Let the tenant cover most of your payment while you live comfortably in this well maintained home. The property includes two one-bedroom apartments and a two bedroom. The home could be converted back a single family home as well. $299,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING- NEWPORT CREEK – One of the few remaining building sites located within the Ann Arbor City limits with public water and sewer. You love the convenience of Newport Creek just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor and the U-M central campus and medical center. This .51-acre building site is perfect for a walk-out basement and backs to common area. $224,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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Downtown Ann Arbor

Exclusive penthouse condo at Ashley Terrace with northern views that stretch all the way to the Huron River. This stylish, 3-bedroom unit on the 10th floor features a modern kitchen, luxurious master suite, and private balcony. ***$775,000***



Ann Arbor

Walk to Nichols Arboretum, University of Michigan Campus, and downtown from this lovingly restored 1920's home in the coveted Angell school area. Charming wrap around porch takes advantage of the desirable corner lot. ***$574,900***



Dexter

A wooded 1.72 acre lends picturesque views to this beautiful home in Cedar Hills. The formal living room features a 2-sided gas fireplace and wall of windows to showcase the natural surroundings. Immaculately finished lower level. ***$559,900***



Downtown Ann Arbor

Private and peaceful living located just steps from historic Kerrytown at Wickliffe Place. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus a finished lower level. The renovated kitchen in this condo is arguably the best in the complex! ***$546,000***



Ann Arbor

Exclusive golf community living at The Links at Stonebridge! This contemporary features a well-thought-out and open floor plan. Vaulted master suite offers hardwood floors, a private study, and luxury bath. Saline Schools. ***$469,900***



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Bask in the beauty of the country in this contemporary home designed by J H Campbell that is ready for you to move in and enjoy. Main level features beautiful reclaimed ash flooring, updated kitchen, and vaulted sunroom. ***$299,900***



Ann Arbor

Tucked away on a private, 1.94 acre lot on the north side, this peaceful home is ready for your finishing touches! Includes 3 bedrooms, newer Andersen windows, a cozy wood burning stove, and large insulated pole barn. ***$289,000***



Ypsilanti Township

New roof, windows, furnace, A/C, water heater...and the list goes on! Move right in to this totally updated 2-story in the popular Partridge Creek Subdivision. Lots of extra living space found in the finished lower level. ***$245,000***

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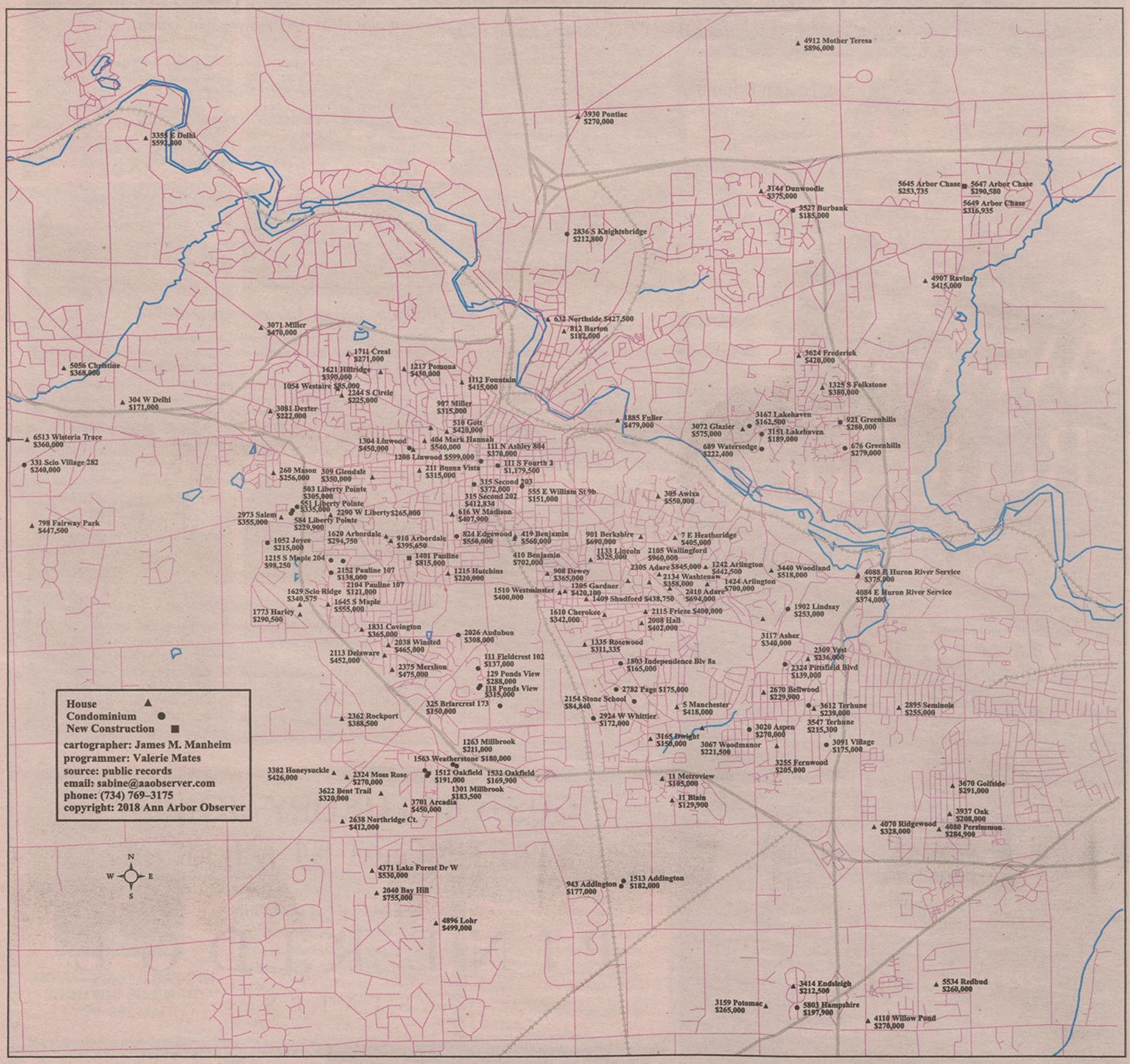


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NOVEMBER 2017

HOME SALES



Shrinking supplies of real estate (and consequent rising prices) have been the general rule here in Ann Arbor and around southeastern Michigan for some months now. Our map above shows signs that things may be returning to an equilibrium. Sales were actually up over November of 2016, with 143 sales as compared with 123 last year. Each year saw 45 condo sales, with the increase coming from sales of single-family homes. And that's mostly in the absence of large new developments coming online—our only new homes this month were in the Scio Ridge development west of town, plus one large infill house on Pauline in Ann Arbor, We had only one million-dollar sale this month, compared with a robust five in 2016.

In 2017 we heard many stories of homes beating their asking prices, especially in central Ann Arbor. But real estate sellers, like lottery players, may be more inclined to boast about their wins than to enumerate their losses. For an objective view, we took a sample of 50 homes that sold in the city of Ann Arbor in November, classifying them as to whether they beat their asking prices, hit them on the nose, came in close (less than 5 percent under the asking price), missed significantly (between 5 and 10 percent under the asking price), or missed substantially (sold for more than 10 percent under the asking price).

Ten sellers beat their asking prices, mostly by small margins—the up-bids averaged just 3.7 percent. Another eleven sellers got exactly the price they asked. That left twenty-nine falling short to varying degrees: ten by 5 percent or less, eleven 5 to 10 percent under, and six that were substantially overpriced, fetching at least 10 percent less than the sellers had hoped to get.

Though Ann Arbor may not be a speculative gold mine, exaggerated price expectations could benefit buyers indirectly. This month's increase comes almost entirely from sales of existing homes—and visions of bidding wars may be encouraging more existing homeowners to test the market waters.

—James M. Manheim


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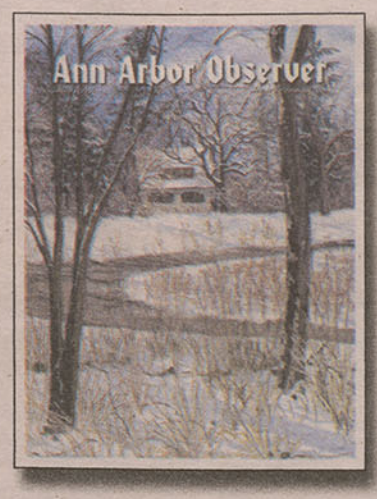
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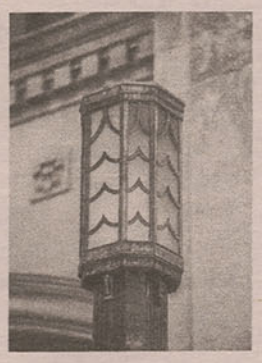
i spy

by Sally Bjork



Approaching five years

"The lamp [pictured] is outside the main entrance to West Quad on Thompson Street," writes David Frye, referring to December's feature. "Darth Vader was a former resident" adds David Karl. "I mean James Earl Jones," he clarifies—the 1955 U-M alum. "I knew it was a campus building familiar to me," shares Mike McGraw, who began riding his bike "through campus in 1968." "One of my undergraduate haunts," writes Jessi Kittel. "It drove me crazy until I found it," says Annemarie Stoll.



West Quad was built in part with funds from the federal Works Progress Administration. The "first unit was the Allen-Rumsey house finished in 1937," writes Frye. The remainder was "completed in 1939 with nearly a million in grant money," says Pamela Kittel. Eric Sobocinski, who hadn't been aware of the New Deal connection, wrote, "Thanks for the tidbit."

We received seventeen entries in December; fifteen correctly identified the lamp on Thompson St. "Couldn't miss this," writes our random drawing winner, Susan Pollans. "My husband, Alan Levy, was the director of West Quad during the early and mid 1980s." Susan will enjoy her $25 gift certificate at Downtown Home & Garden.

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above and send your answer to the address below.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received 167 entries correctly identifying last month's Fake Ad for Dominick's Pizza on page 82 of the December issue.



"Zawackier than ever!" wrote Gregory Tucker, referring to the last name of the previous winner, Sonia Zawacki, which was contained in the ad copy, "... pizza. Wackier ..."

"I absolutely loved 'my' ad for Dominick's Pizza on page 82," Zawacki herself wrote. "My daughter was ecstatic when she found it, and is creating a fake gift card to Dominick's for her dad as a Christmas gift. As always, thanks for the fun!"

The name of the pizza place, of course, refers to the store where Domino's founder Tom Monaghan first started selling pizza. On a related note, Susan Horvath wrote in: " My husband rented office space at Domino's Farms for many many years. Domino's Farms used to have an in-house pizza store that tried out various variations. The gimmickiest was a Thanksgiving pizza. I don't remember all the ingredients but they included turkey, stuffing and cranberry sauce."

Yuck.

Our winner was Cathy Strachan. She's taking her gift certificate to Zingerman's.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The fake ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter this month's contests, send email to fakead@aaobserver.com or ispy@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on Wednesday, January 10, will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our December drawing!

The following readers won a **$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

December winners:
Helen G. & Marilyn G.

If you would like to be entered in the January drawing for a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 68, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by January 10.

Thanks!

Observer Staff

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Events at a Glance

Daily ***Events*** *listings begin on p.* ***47.*** ***Films:*** *p.* ***60.*** ***Galleries:*** *p.* ***58.*** ***Nightspots*** *begin on p.* ***44.***

➢**Reviewed** in this issue. See p. 47.



Urban Bush Women perform Jan. 12.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- "What's in a Song," Jan. 6
- Pianist Andrew Anderson, Jan. 13
- U-M Annual Collage Concert, Jan. 13
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, Jan. 14
- St. Lawrence String Quartet, Jan. 14
- Imani Winds (chamber), Jan. 17
- Out Loud Chorus, Jan. 19 & 20
- L'Invenzione (early music), Jan. 20
- Ann Arbor Camerata (chamber), Jan. 21
- U-M Life Sciences Orchestra, Jan. 21
- "Wine, Women, and Song," Jan. 26–28
- Chelsea House Orchestra, Jan. 27
- Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, Jan. 27
- Violinist Maxim Vengerov, Jan. 28
- ➢ Soprano Janai Brugger, Jan. 31

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See ***Nightspots,*** *p. 44, for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs*

- Drew Nelson (singer-songwriter), Jan. 3
- "An Evening of Sam Cooke," Jan. 5
- Jon-Erik Kellso Quartet (jazz), Jan. 6
- Annual Ragtime Extravaganza, Jan. 12
- Peter Madcat Ruth (harmonica), Jan. 13
- Jazz vocalist Ramona Collins, Jan. 13
- TMT Trio (jazz), Jan. 17
- The Oblivion Project (tango), Jan. 20
- Russian Renaissance (world), Jan. 27
- Timothy Monger & Gifts or Creatures (Americana double bill), Jan. 27

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *The Explorers Club* (Civic Theatre), Jan. 11–14
- EMU Faculty & Guest Artist Choreography Concert, Jan. 12–14
- Urban Bush Women dance company, Jan. 12
- *Underground Railroad Game* (Ars Nova), Jan. 17–21
- *Flint* (Purple Rose), Jan. 18–21, 24–28, & 31
- Pioneer High School "FutureStars," Jan. 19, 20, & 27
- *Apple Blossoms* (Comic Opera Guild), Jan. 20 & 21
- *Romeo and Juliet* (Bolshoi Ballet broadcast), Jan. 21
- *Uncle Vanya* (Vakhtangov Theatre broadcast), Jan. 21
- *Us/Them* (BRONKS Theater Co.), Jan. 24–28
- *Constellations* (Theatre Nova), Jan. 26 & 27
- *Tosca* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Jan. 27 & 31
- *They, Themself, and Schmerm* (UMS), Jan. 31

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- "4th Annual 50 First Jokes," Jan. 2
- Comic Derek Richards, Jan. 4–6
- *Cue This* (Pointless Brewery & Theatre), every Fri.
- Comic Brian Scolaro, Jan. 11–13
- Comic Dwayne Kennedy, Jan. 18–20
- Comic Stewart Huff, Jan. 25–27

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Monster Ann Arbor Record & CD Collector's Show, Jan. 21
- Ann Arbor Folk Festival, Jan. 26 & 27
- Saline Winterfest, Jan. 27

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Journalist Jason Fagone, Jan. 8
- Novelists Carrie Smith & Jeff Kass, Jan. 13
- Poet Rebecca Biber, Jan. 13
- Novelist Chloe Benjamin, Jan. 15
- *HuffPost* editor Lydia Polgreen, Jan. 16
- Poet Ray McDaniel, Jan. 17
- Novelist Tom Grace, Jan. 21
- Poet Siaara Freeman, Jan. 23
- Poet Jamie Thomas, Jan. 24
- ➢ Poet Jane Hirshfield & novelist Brit Bennett, Jan. 25
- Poets Kathy Edgren & Jennifer Burd, Jan. 26

Miscellaneous

- Annual City Dodgeball Tournament, Jan. 20

Family & Kids' Stuff

- U-M MLK Symposium Children & Youth Program, Jan. 15
- *Frog and Toad* (Wild Swan Theater), Jan. 25–27
- *Dragons Love Tacos* (Theatreworks USA), Jan. 28

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- *Wonder Woman* "Dive-In" Movie, Jan. 14



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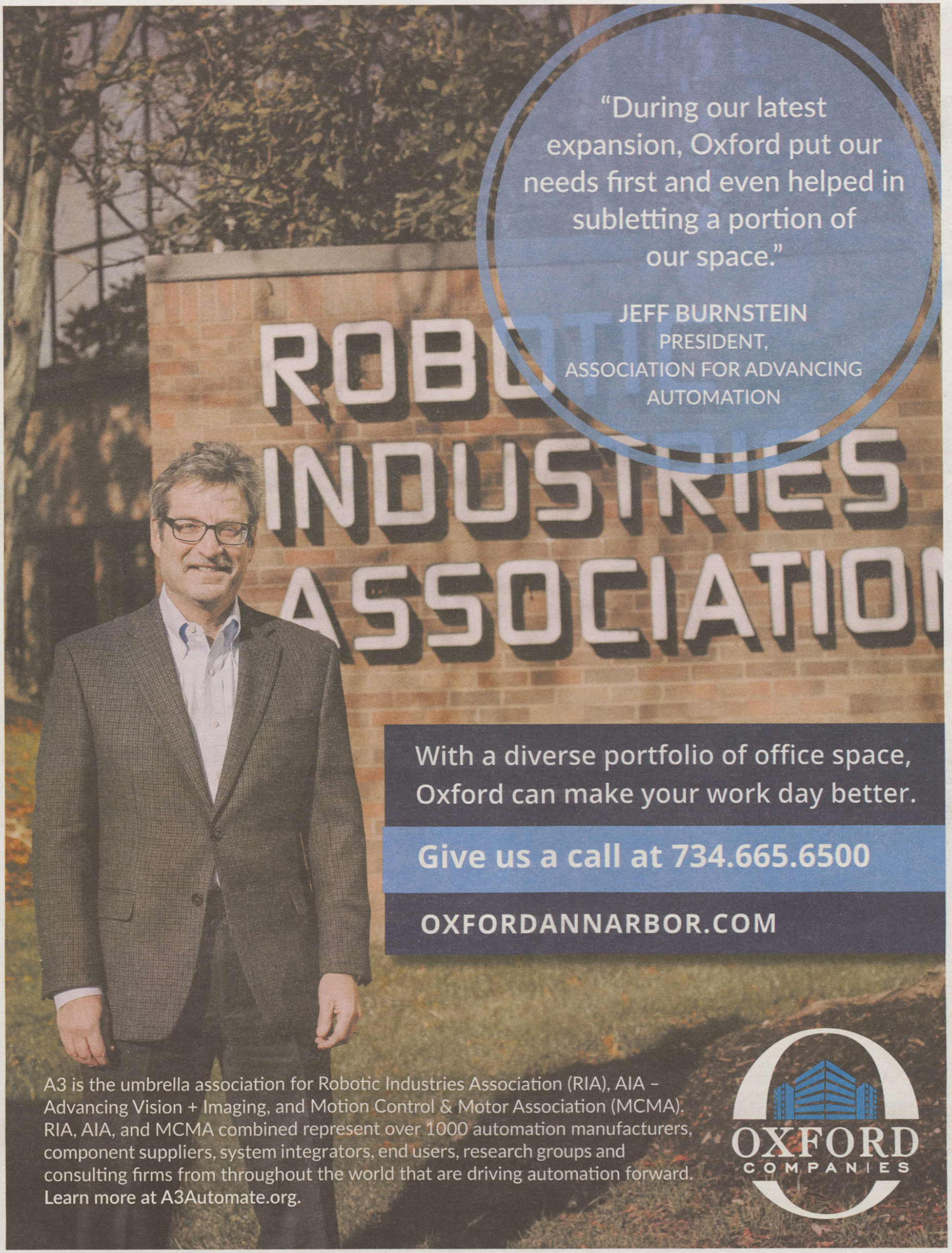
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